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SOME WORK OF THE CONFERENCE

May 13.

THE National Christian Conference after being in session in the Town Hall for nine days, has ended its labours. Reports of the proceedings have appeared in our columns from day to day and it is now possible to gauge, in some measure, the value of its work and to see the trend of its influence on the future of the missionary movement in China. The outstanding feature has been, as we forecast in an article on the subject when the conference opened, the emergence of Chinese leadership in the movement for the Christianization of China. In 1910 there was held a World Missionary Conference in Edinburgh under the presidency of Dr. John R. Mott, General Secretary of the Y.M.C.A. of America. Many of the ablest leaders of Christian thought in Europe and the United States were present at that conference but the personality of the chairman dominated the assembly in a manner as striking as it was beneficial. In 1913 a series of conferences was held in China; again Dr. Mott was president and again his influence was markedly in evidence. Dr. Mott is a delegate to the conference just held in our midst but beyond a powerful address delivered in the Town Hall on Thursday evening last week his influence in the conference has not been apparent.

There has only been one small breeze to ripple the even tenour of the proceedings. On the opening day the rules of order to be followed in the conduct of business were discussed before the election of the chairman of the Conference proper. Bishop Graves, who is chairman of the committee of arrangements, occupied the chair at this preliminary meeting. The Chinese delegates showed themelves very restive during this discussion but after the election of Dr. C. Y. Cheng to the chair things ran with notable smoothness. It was evident that the foreign, no less than the Chinese, delegates felt that a Conference of the Chinese Church held in China should be under the presidency of a Chinese. It must be said that in the meetings which have been held since its inauguration the Chinese leaders in the Conference have measured up to the height of their opportunity. The chairman guides the deliberations of the gathering with dignity and ability. The Chinese who present papers do not need to fear comparison with the foreign missionaries who undertake the same task. Their English is as faultless as their Chinese and the subject matter is direct and very much to the point. They bring their own contribution to the solution of every problem and it is nearly always something quite unexpected by the Western mind. It is quite evident that the Chinese claim that the leadership of the Church should pass into their hands is perfectly reasonable and that, not only is it not being resisted, but is being expedited in every way possible by their foreign colleagues.

Next to Chinese leadership the most important point discussed was the improvement of the social condition of those employed in large factories with especial reference to the interests of women and children. On Wednesday Miss Agatha Harrison of the Y.W.C.A. presented an eloquent plea for the enactment of regulations governing the employment of these defenceless classes. She showed that children of very immature years were often employed for periods of more than twelve hours at a time for seven days a week often without even a pause for meals. She pleaded earnestly that the exploitation of the labour of women and children, which was a feature of the industrial revolution in the West, should not be allowed to be reproduced throughout the whole of China. Miss Harrison was able to announce that she had discussed this question with such leading employers of labour in Shanghai as Sir Edward Pearce, Mr. Brooke-Smith, Mr. C. Arnhold and Mr. Okada. They were heartily in favour of such reforms as would safeguard the lives and welfare of the women and child workers for whose sake Miss Harrison pleaded. Mr. C. C. Nieh, the chairman of the Chinese Chamber of Commerce, also spoke at this meeting and assured the conference that he kept in touch with all movements in Europe and America which aimed at the improvement of the lot of manual workers. He believed that whatever tended to raise the standard of the lives of the labourers was for the good of the employer and contended that the benefits the employer secured from the industry should be shared with his employees. This from a man who employs thousands of workers was much appreciated by those to whom Mr. Nieh was speaking. Ultimately the conference endorsed the following standards for industrial labour: (1) No employment of children under twelve years of age; (2) one day's rest in seven; (3) hours of labour to be limited. Sanitary conditions to be improved and safety devices to be installed. These seem very reasonable requirements and if the National Christian Conference can expedite the grant of the Magna Charta to Chinese workers, it will not only have justified its existence but will have marked a mile-stone in the progress of reform in China.

PEKING, May 12.—Dr. Hollington Tong is being appointed counsellor of the Chiaotungpu.—Reuter.

PEKING, May 12.—The Government has received a communication from Czecho-Slovakia expressing the earnest desire to open treaty relations.—Reuter.

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THE MAN AND THE HOUR

May 15.

DURING the troublous years that have elapsed since the inauguration of the Republic the opinion has often been expressed that China needed beyond all else a strong man to guide the barque of state through the stormy sea of her transition period. This idea is familiar to those who have studied their Carlyle. The one thought that dominated the mind of the Sage of Chelsea was that the world's progress depended on the leaders of thought in every age and so he wrote his prose poems on the hero as a king, as a prophet and as a poet. Unfortunately he did not write of the hero as President of a Republic or we might have been able to point our Chinese friends to the dictum of a modern sage to eke out the hiatus in the analects of their own ancient teacher. For on this point Confucius, too, was silent. It is perhaps because of this that young China has little interest in the classics. The classics, like the Bible, are not scientific text-books. Their references to theology are only in the nature of by-products, but the main lessons contained in these venerable records have to do with the science of government. It is therefore only natural that when it is demonstrated that the theory of administration suited to the China of 500 B.C. is inapplicable to the problems of a twentieth century Republic the uncrowned king of China should be dethroned and his profound platitudes relegated to the dusty shelves of the unfrequented library. For the burden of Confucius' teaching, like that of Carlyle, was that the country's need is a man. Given the right man and to that man his opportunity, everything else is negligible.

China has got her strong man. Nay, she has got two strong men for she has Wu Pei-fu and he is backed by the "Christian General" Feng Yu-hsiang. And the hour of opportunity has tolled on the "clanging bells of time." China lies like an amorphous lump of clay at the feet of Chang Tso-lin's conqueror and he may mould it into any shape he likes. Wu has demonstrated his valour in the field, he has now to show his wisdom in the senate. Chinese history, doubtless, can show many shining examples of men who triumphed on the battlefield and won more enduring laurels as statesmen. More familiar with the annals of our own land we can think only of two men who had an opportunity as great as that of Wu Pei-fu. Oliver Cromwell and George Washington were greater in peace than in war and their fame does not rest on the victories they gained over the enemies of their countries but on the loyalty and self-denial with which they served the state. The memory of Wolsey's speech to another Cromwell comes to mind as we think of Wu standing now at the crisis of his fate:

> Cromwell, I charge thee, fling away ambition
> Love thyself last
> Let all the ends thou aim'st at be thy country's.

This is poetry but it is also everlasting truth. It is by no means certain that even the purest patriotism will shield a man from the envy and malice, nor even from the ingratitude, of those for whose sake he labours but, even on the lowest ground of selfish policy, the advice of Henry VIII's fallen minister points the only safe road for a man to follow.

The brief record of the Chinese Republic is strewn with the wrecks of reputations that were once as high as that of Wu Pei-fu to-day. In 1912, when Yuan-Shih-kai had crushed the armies of the revolution at Wuchang and Hanyang that astute person was in an even stronger position than the present warlord of north China. Yet he fell as suddenly as Chang Tso-lin seems to have done. History contains no more dramatic story than the biography of the man who overthrew the Manchu dynasty and crooked his knees to sit on the throne of the fallen Emperor. It is idle to speculate on what might have been, but few can doubt that had Yuan buried his selfish ambition and put his country first China would have been saved the humiliations that have fallen upon her during the last ten years. We can point, too, to Chang Hsun and Tuan Chi-jui as examples of men who tempted fate and found Nemesis awaiting them. In the South we see Sun Yat-sen pursuing the same fatal policy; laboriously spinning a rope of sand as he strives to build up a constitutional government by the aid of a bandit army and a Bolshevik proletariat. These schemes are bound to fail as they ought to fail, but they are red lights pointing out the slippery slope that leads to perdition. The Chinese proverb says, "He who climbs high falls heavy." As great as is the prize of success so terrible is the retribution that waits on failure. China is a country that does not ask for much from those who would govern her. Given a modicum of wisdom and an ordinary sense of justice and fair dealing the Chinese people would respond gratefully to the man who would give them rest from the blood-sucking politicians who have battened on their revenues during the lean years of the Republic. We wait to see whether the man, as well as the hour of destiny, has come.

MUKDEN'S CHANCES IN BATTLE

May 16.

EVENTS in the North, or at any rate reports of alleged events, follow each other in so rapid a sequence that long before any expression of opinion has the chance to see daylight the whole basis on which it has been constructed may be hopelessly shattered. Chang Tso-lin is believed to have replied to the Mandate dismissing him by a declaration of Manchuria's independence, and we are told that in pursuance of this attitude he is digging himself in on the Kailan coalfields well ahead of the Great Wall. This statement of the situation has hardly had time to be digested before rumour attacks it, suggesting that Chang is merely bluffing, playing for time until the political forces can be set to work which will secure his safety and the continuance of some measure of power over the Eastern Provinces. Looking at the messages as they arrive there seems just about as much to support this latter view as the opinion that Chang is really to make a fight for it, to cut off Manchuria from the rest of China for the time being, though doubtless to emerge later with renewed strength to pursue his dreams of supreme power. While we are left with this situation to ponder over, Wu Pei-fu appears content to consolidate his position in the north pending the time when his very capable lieutenant Feng Yu-hsiang will have wiped out the troublesome elements threatening his rear. As soon, however, as security is guaranteed there he will move in force against Chang's new posi-

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tion, and without doubt in the meantime his advance force will harass the Mukden troops with all the strength they have. As matters stand the view may be put forward that Chang's intentions will not be disclosed until Wu is in a position to launch an attack in force against the army of his opponent.

Speculation on Chang Tso-lin's frame of mind takes on a fascinating quality—more fascinating at this stage perhaps than actually profitable. That frame of mind, we believe, is better capable of being judged by a consideration of the military events of the past two weeks than by any other criterion at present available. Reports from the battlefield have been generally hazy about the number of men engaged on either side, but they seem to agree in giving Chang a preponderance of about a third over Wu's forces. Now the General Staff at Mukden must have known as well as anybody else that the excellence of Wu Pei-fu's infantry and the genius of their commander would render his army the most dangerous of all to encounter in the whole of China, and they would make their preparations accordingly. It would be their desire to oppose that army by the biggest concentration of Fengtien troops possible, a concentration so strong that sheer force of numbers, flung into battle regardless of cost, would overwhelm the enemy. A couple of years ago Chang Tso-lin boasted that his army was 300,000 strong, and even if this be an exaggeration, it seems fairly obvious that, given the time and means, he could have faced Wu Pei-fu with a great many more men than he actually brought on the scene. It was his intention to do so, as we now know, but Wu carried through his attack at a time when Chang's mobilization was incomplete, thus seizing the heaven-sent moment for victory. Chang's mobilization, to mention one instance, was interfered with by the general commanding at Hsuanhuafu, who, declaring for Chihli at a moment when he was considered safe, prevented the Kalgan reinforcements from arriving. Here was an important part of the Fengtien machinery put out of gear, and for all we know similar incidents may have happened on other mobilization routes. Then the railway from Mukden could only carry a given number of troops per day to the front, and so Fengtien was never allowed the chance to develop its full battle strength. We may easily conceive that the General Staff at Mukden hesitated to meet the enemy in such a case, but the political influence resulting from the potential loss of Peking must have lured them to defeat.

All the above is merely surmise based on the reports received from the north, but if we are on the right lines it shows Chang Tso-lin as a man who has suffered a severe defeat but who has not necessarily received the knock-out blow. Accordingly there would be nothing surprising, in fact it would be the natural thing, for him to go to earth astride the Peking-Mukden Railway and wait for Wu Pei-fu to come on. The lessons of the French battlefields are likely to be as well known in Mukden as elsewhere, and behind a screen of troops forced labour could do much to construct a trench system against which Wu Pei-fu's divisions slenderly equipped as they are with the artillery needful to smash a way through, might break themselves. Probably it would not do for Wu Pei-fu to sit down and try to reduce these defences piecemeal, for that would give Chang the time to set in motion all manner of influences against his opponent, while his own position in the provinces beyond the Great Wall would remain tolerably secure. A position such as Chang's, skilfully handled, would have in it all the elements of a military deadlock, and the moment that the stale mate became apparent the passion of the Chinese for negotiation and compromise would have full sway. These are the possibilities of the present situation, but as we have said, they may be utterly discounted before they have time to appear in print. They are, however, supported by the statement that Chang is endeavouring to restore the morale of his army by a clean sweep of the older and unsuccessful officers and the promotion of younger and presumably more enterprising and ambitious men. And, if the Manchurian overlord neglected to utilize opportunities such as these still remaining to him, it could only be said that by a gigantic impertinence he had in the past succeeded in deceiving some of the most astute foreigners in the Far East as to his character.

INTEREST ON OVERDRAFTS

May 17.

OUR article last week dealing with seven per cent. Municipal Debentures called forth a letter from one signing himself "British Merchant" in which a plea was made that the local bank rate of eight per cent. on overdrafts might be reduced to what he would consider a more reasonable figure. The basis of his plea was that with the Bank rate at Home down to four per cent. it was fitting that our local banks should follow suit, thereby assisting struggling merchant houses. With the latter we have every sympathy, and we are safe in saying that our financial institutions have a great deal more than mere sympathy, that they have a very earnest concern in seeing that they prosper. That, however, does not suffice as a reason for their bringing their interest rates down in line with what has happened in London, for we have to face an entirely different set of circumstances here, and the factors which have operated at Home have been non-effective in the case of China. Stagnation in business at Home has diverted money from commercial enterprises and taken it to the London money market looking for profitable employment. The greater the extent to which this has happened, the more has it been possible to reduce the Bank rate, until now it stands at its present figure. Put in its proper aspect, it simply means that money is so ample for all the requirements of trade that there is no need for high rates of interest to be offered to attract capital to London. To get lower rates than we have at present in Shanghai we shall have to see a similar situation.

The stock of silver in Shanghai is roughly fifty million taels, and every tael of this is required to finance the trade of the port. Now this total is subject from time to time to severe depletion, for as soon as the interior requires money it calls upon Shanghai and silver immediately leaves the port. The interior is able to do this in its times of monetary stringency from the fact that practically all the Chinese banks have accounts with our great financial houses here, and, as soon as their constituents call for hard cash, they in turn draw on their balances with us. The present is a time

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typical of such a need on their part. Warfare throughout the land induces a loss of confidence in Chinese bank notes, and the clamour for silver is insistent. The timorous, especially those whose circumstances will not allow them to depart to the security of the Treaty Ports, will hoard it, dig it into the ground for greater safety, and the wary merchant will not repose his trust in banks which may at any moment have to endure the exactions of powerful factions backed by the force of arms. Silver they must have, so Shanghai's stock is liable to a serious drain. Moreover, Tuchuns are apt to pay their troops when they need them for fighting, and that takes up silver. Apart from all this there is at the present time a trade demand which tends to tighten the local money market. This is the silk harvest which in the course of the next few weeks will occupy the attention of our merchants. Cocoons have to be purchased upcountry, to a large extent in villages and hamlets which take no cognizance of the bank note, and every basket has to be bartered for in the white metal. A dozen years ago the amount despatched from Shanghai to make such payments—all within the course of a very few weeks—was estimated to be between ten and fifteen million dollars, and we may take it that the total is not less to-day. When bankers have to produce funds of that amount, in addition to meeting the demands of the Chinese banks, they dare not bring down their rates of interest. Before they can do so they must see more money in their strong rooms, and the prospects thereof are absent to-day.

When, eighteen months or a couple of years ago, the charge on overdrafts was advanced from seven to eight per cent., certain local conditions urgently called for it. The community was engaged in a very bad gamble, and money which should have been available for the ordinary purposes of commerce was being used to pay margins on share transactions. It was in the power of the banks to curb this to some extent, and they did it by putting up their interest charges, so that those who were gambling on overdrafts found their profits dwindling. At the same time, however, measures were taken that the export trade, then as now in a backward state, should not suffer through this increase, and so far as that business was concerned the old rate was maintained. This still applies. There was then every reason for the increase, not only on the count of the gambling propensities prevailing, but because the Bank rate at Home had risen and was likely to maintain a high level. We have seen the London rate lowered in the interval while for the time being the local gambling fever has abated, but this is not enough to bring matters back to their old footing. The other conditions, however, which we have enumerated above, are operating too strongly, and their remedy is required before the plea of "British Merchant" can have its effect. The state of affairs he asks for is much to be desired from all points of view, but the whole possibility of relief is bound by the condition of the country.

BRITISH AND CHINESE

May 18.

THE speech delivered by Dr. Wellington Koo at the luncheon given by the British Chamber of Commerce yesterday will not easily be forgotten by those who heard it. As an example only of faultless use of a language foreign to the speaker it would command admiration. But far more than this, more even than the personal charm with which the speech was infused, was the quiet earnestness and evident sincerity of Dr. Wellington Koo's words. He spoke of the relationships of China and Great Britain in a manner which left no doubt in his hearers that he recognized and intensely desired the friendship of the Western nation for the Eastern. And while they felt that he meant every word he said, there can be no doubt that his speech was an echo of their own feelings and desires. The impatience which Britons resident in China sometimes, perhaps too frankly, express at her political tribulations, is not wholly selfish. It is not only due to annoyance at impediments caused to trade by the disputing of Tuchuns. But it has its roots in the genuine affection which every one of us feels for the land of our temporary adoption, in regret at the disorganization which afflicts her, in desire that she should conquer her troubles and take her rightful place among the nations.

We emphasize these facts the more that the relationships of British and Chinese have been and are still passing through a somewhat unhappy period. The political disunion of China frequently places Great Britain in the unwelcome position of a creditor dunning for payment; and the same telegram which describes the attention that the British Government is giving to the education of Chinese, goes on to report that the British Minister in Peking will relax no efforts in pressing for interest due on certain loans. It is not the habit of British Governments to lend assistance to unjust claims, but the number of instances in which the Minister in Peking has latterly had to take a firm stand on the rights of his nationals cannot but make an unfavourable impression when viewed through the imperfectly informed medium of Chinese newspapers. More especially it has to be confessed that Britons individually have not the art of making themselves popular. Their business integrity, we believe we may say without boasting, is generally recognized, and we do not think they would be accused of illiberality when material help is needed. But they have not the art of pretty speeches and smooth sayings, all of which, however true it be that fine words butter no parsnips, count for a good deal in smoothing the ways of international dealing. Of which deficiency certain persons who would seem deliberately to be trying to make trouble between British and Chinese do not fail to take every advantage.

We speak of racial peculiarities for which there is no cure. The average Briton never has been "good at compliments" and never will be. He rather prides himself on the fact, and leaves it, contemptuously, to time to prove that his heart is in the right place. Something, however, might be done by him, without violence to his principles, or foibles, to mitigate the asperity of his exterior, which he has hitherto worn as a diadem. The new nation-wide consciousness of China of which Dr. Wellington Koo spoke yesterday is by no means limited to matters of trade. Foreigners in China live under a magnifying glass and their doings are reflected from one part of China to another and through all classes of Chinese society as never before. The man who, as the phrase goes, "beats up" a ricsha coolie is an enemy to his country to a degree that he does not suspect.

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His conduct is held up as typical of the foreigner, to intensify the determination which is now so visible in all kinds of ways, that, if the foreign nations wish to live in China, it must be on terms of which China approves. Millions of dollars poured out in famine relief, innumerable enterprises opened up by the West by which Chinese find employment and betterment, go for practically nothing in comparison with the ill manners of a minority. For the first time in the history of East and West the peoples of the one —as distinct from their Governments and official representatives —are being brought into touch with and to observe each other with a new closeness and curiosity. That is one of the many problems of the democratic age we live in of which the outcome cannot be foreseen. But in the working out of the problem it is much from the point of view of the West to have in China so sympathetic an interpreter of her thought as Dr. Wellington Koo.

FROM GENOA TO THE HAGUE

May 19.

TO-DAY, says Reuter, the last plenary session of the Genoa Conference is to be held. In its ultimate results it has narrowed down simply to the problem of what is to be done with Russia—and with Russia, undoubtedly, rest the honours of the field. Only in the matter of the commission of experts meeting at The Hague, to which, for some unstated reason, the Soviet objects, was that extremely astute diplomatist, M. Chicherin, obliged to give way. He secured the inclusion of all the Soviet Republics in the truce of the non-aggression pact—an important gain, as it will enable the Soviet, at any moment when the discussions at The Hague are not to its liking, to trump up some story that Japan is breaking the pact by "aggressing" against Chita, and threaten to withdraw if it does not get its way. M. Chicherin has also asserted Moscow's right to continue negotiating separate agreements with Italy, Czecho-Slovakia and Sweden, irrespective of what The Hague may do. Most important of all, he has obtained a solemn promise that Moscow's delegates at The Hague shall be received on terms of absolute equality with those of other nations: after which it appears slightly ridiculous for the Powers to say that *de jure* recognition of Moscow is withheld. For morally they are recognizing her well enough. The boldness and pertinacity of M. Chicherin's questions during the later stages of the conference tell their own story. No one knew better than he that, although the Powers opposed to him were sharply divided on how to deal with him, they would not or could not risk an open breach. Thereout sucked he no small advantage.

What is to happen now? The commission of experts meeting at The Hague, as we understand the telegrams, is to decide how much Russia owes to the Powers, how much the Powers could conceivably admit that they owe to Russia, and whether any system can be invented whereby foreign owners of property may be indemnified without doing violence to the Soviet's frankly avowed dislike for giving back what it has stolen. After which the experts will report to their respective Governments and there will be another conference, seeking some possibility of agreement on a common line of action. Biarritz, or Pau, we believe, is a pleasant resort at the time of year when the Hague experts will probably have finished talking.

But Genoa has had one important lesson to be remarked. It was in design an economic conference, to devise ways and means of restoring Europe: and the Allied Powers, in action if not in word, have confessed that Europe's restoration is as impossible while Russia languishes on a bankrupt pariah as is the health of the human body while one of its members remains useless and diseased. Plenty of other people have pointed this out, but the Governments have shirked the admission. Now that they have been driven to face the fact, it will remain a perpetual cause of dissension until they and the Soviet can agree on a definite line of action and stick to it loyally. In this crisis, the manner in which we regard America's abstention from the Hague conference depends entirely on what we think of Russia. Reuter says that the news caused consternation: but this probably means only among a few under-secretaries who pretend to be wiser than everyone else and the people who hope to make money out of Russia and are trying to entrap their Governments into guaranteeing them in the attempt. For others, who put as little faith in Soviet promises as in the Soviet system, Mr. Hughes's reasons for America's not assisting at The Hague will seem eminently just. He says that it is idle to talk of credits to Russia until by her own efforts she has created a basis for them, and useless to expect the economic restoration of Russia until her own productivity is revived. In short, if it be true that Heaven helps those who help themselves, it is at least as true that for those who do not help themselves the most heroic attempts at help are useless. As a business organization, therefore, the United States will have no hand in a conference which is based on delusions and appears foredoomed to end in shams.

It is safe to say that Europe has never had to face so dreadful an impasse. On the one hand, Mr. Lloyd George's warning of the consequences of trying to keep two-thirds of the people of Europe in chains. On the other, a divergence of views between Moscow and all other centres so great that they are not merely irreconcilable but remain for ever implicitly at war. It is not as if the Soviet were just a revolutionary government. If regicide were its only offence, it would sooner or later be forgiven, as Servia was forgiven. If it were a democracy according to any known terms, it would eventually harmonize with other democracies. But there is certainly no democracy in this despotism of a minority of madmen, who deny the premises of every other outlook on life except their own. In such a system there can be no modification: it remains itself or nothing. It can only be ended, not mended, and there is as yet no symptom of the end approaching. Therefore the restoration of Europe must get on as best it can without Russia, until Russia returns to her senses. The failure of Genoa was that, in actual fact, however diplomacy might try to hide it, Europe went to the Bolsheviks as suitors, and the Bolsheviks realized that and profited by it. If permanent peace is to be had, Europe must wait for the Bolsheviks to come as suitors to her.

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NOTES & COMMENTS

Does the Dog Know?

The situation between Russia and the Powers rather reminds one of the old story of the two men discussing the dog that is advertised not to bite. "I know the dog doesn't bite," says one man, "and you know he doesn't, but does the dog know it?" All the Allies know, or may be supposed to be going to know after the experts' meeting at The Hague, what Soviet Russia must pay up on pre-revolution debts, but will the Soviet know it? From to-day's telegrams it appears unlikely. Russia's delegates, we are told,

> Do not feel bound, to abide by the findings of the commission which will study the question of debts and credits and private property, if they are excluded from them.

In which event it would appear that the experts' commission at The Hague will merely be another means of wasting time. There is, however, just the chance that it may prove not a waste, but a gaining of time. The Russian question and the obstinacy of the Russian refusal to recognize claims on private property very nearly wrecked Genoa and caused a breach between the Allies. There are those who believe that the Bolshevist attitude on economic questions is changing. It was even reported yesterday that the Soviet delegates at Genoa have learnt something in the past few weeks and are in favour of yet greater changes but that they must first get back to Moscow to secure support at headquarters. Evidently Mr. Lloyd George hopes, by postponing action until the extent of Russia's debts has been more fully explored, that Moscow may in the intervening time become more reasonable and a compromise be made possible. At any rate the breach between the Allies has for the moment been averted.

The Full Russian Menace

Mr. Lloyd George, for one, has said enough to convince people that if the Genoa Conference breaks up in anger the danger to the future peace of Europe is likely to be very considerable. Mr. Frank Vanderlip, who boasts some connexion with Russia—he is said to have been given a vast concession in Siberia—now supplies his own analysis of the extent of that danger. The failure of the Conference would ultimately, he believes, lead to an alliance between all the following:—Germany, Russia, Austria, Hungary, Bulgaria, the Angora portion of Turkey and possibly Persia. Poland would be the first opposing state. and Czecho-Slovakia might also be in the same category, although with a third of her population Teutonic, she would not be a certainty. Over and above the European nations represented in this alliance, Japan might also find herself there. The last conjecture appears unlikely, the rest more than probable.

The Silk City

A correspondent recently back from Wusieh reports that the prospects of the silk season are now considered exceptionally good, provided there is no unfavourable break in the weather. This week the silkworms are about to perform their last sloughing and everybody is busy preparing the straw stooks in which the silkworms may "go up the mountain" and spin their cocoons. There is scarcely a house in Wusieh which is not busy with silkworms: the very schoolboys raise them in their desks, a much more interesting process than study. Wusieh generally presents a picture of great prosperity. The number of mills of all kinds is increasing amazingly. The land north of the railway is now being developed industrially and land that might have been bought a year or two ago for $300 a mow now runs to as many thousands and more. One new departure is the dyeing and colouring mill which is being erected for a Chinese company by a Manchester firm of engineers whose representative is on the spot putting up the machinery. In spite of all its factory chimneys, Wusieh has lost none of its charm. It is, as ever a most attractive city, with no poor people (according to Chinese standards) except the professional beggars, who are certainly not poor. One is struck by the excellent repair in which the streets and roads out of the city are kept. The country round is charming and the crops are looking very healthy. Wusieh is, socially, a most interesting town. It is practically owned by a few big families who conduct a more or less patriarchal government wholly regardless of who pretends to reign in Peking, or even Nanking. And it is an unwritten law that whatever revolutions may rack the country nothing must interfere with the silk trade. Only once in the memory of man has a robbery of the silver sent to finance that trade been attempted. One gathers that it will not be tried again. Withal, bandits are not unknown and most farm houses outside the city bear on their walls the interlaced circles which show that they have paid toll for exemption from bandits' attentions.

A Convicted Murderer

The *"tu quoque"* argument is one to be used very sparingly. But when the "Canton Times" becomes wrathful over "the latest stupidity of Hongkong officialdom" in arresting Chan Ping-sang, the ex-president of the Seaman's Union, it is pertinent to inquire where the first stupidity occurred. Chan was convicted on clear evidence of murdering his wife, with more atrocity, we believe, than ordinarily attaches to murder. He was condemned to death. Then, first, the death sentence was commuted to one of imprisonment. and finally he was pardoned and The common supposition is that liberated by Dr. Sun Yat-sen. Chan is a member of the Kuomintang whom Dr. Sun dares not offend. But we have no proof of this and it really does not matter much: The important point is that the Canton Government, which poses as the last word in enlightenment, deliberately, without a shadow of excuse and to the great scandal of all decent Chinese, sets free a justly condemned murderer. And then foreigners, with their crude Western ideals of justice, are asked why they do not fall down and worship at the shrine of Dr. Sun and Canton.

The Unspeakable Turk

In the days of Abdul Hamid, it was the fashion with friends of Turkey to pretend that it was he, by means of his Kurdish guards, and not his lamb-like subjects, who was to blame for the intermittent massacring of Armenians and other Christian dogs. Long before the war Europe had realized that the slobbering enthusiasm with which she had hailed the Young Turks was rather badly misplaced. But it was not until the war that she learnt that the Young Turk took just as much delight in exterminating those who are obnoxious to the Prophet as did Abdul the Unblessed. Now the telegrams give us another instance of an even more atrocious nature,—10,000 Greeks murdered and a set policy to exterminate the Christian minorities whom the Turkish Government has just solemnly engaged itself to protect. Such is the natural consequence of Great Britain allowing herself to be bamboozled into tearing up the Sèvres Treaty and of combining with France to compel Greece to cease from annoying the dear Turkey. Inexpressibly sad and shameful. It would be interesting to know what part Moscow is playing in Constantinople's conduct.

A New Clock

A valuable suggestion, we understand, has been put before the Rev. Father Froc, and we believe that there is every chance of its being adopted. The position is this, that with the new Wayfoong building stretching daily higher, the Customs tower is now hidden from the south end of the Bund, and its clock which used to keep the people at that end of the town up to scratch, is obscured. The case is obviously strong, therefore, for a clock dial some place else, where it will be visible to all and sundry, and the Semaphore Station has been suggested. There are many points in its favour. With dials 10 or 12 feet in diameter facing the four principal points of the compass, it would be visible to most of the people in the Bund district and across the river, and that is an essential now lacking in the case of the Customs clock. Further, by having the control of Shanghai's time under the direction of Siccawei, we should be at all moments having the most accurate time possible. It is to be hoped that something

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of the kind will eventuate, for already the Customs tower fails to fulfil its purpose.

A Great English Litterateur

Besides being the bearer of a much revered name Sir Walter Raleigh, whose death has just been announced, was a litterateur of supreme distinction. During nearly the whole of the past two decades, he was one of the most distinguished of Oxford's famous dons—one who really added something tangible to the academic glory of its ancient halls, his name and fame extending far beyond their precincts. Professor Sir Walter Raleigh was one of the most humane of preceptors, one whose methods were as sane as his judgement was sound; and he was also a recognized authority in certain branches of the vast domain embraced in the term "English literature." Many years ago, Sir Walter Raleigh was already celebrated for several publications, notably for his volume on "Style" and, later, for his monograph on Shakespeare, in which he treated his great subject to the admiration of Shakespearean students the world over. The loss of Professor Sir Walter Raleigh is a loss not only to Oxford, but to all interested in the realms of English literature.

Unpunctuality

The famous unpunctualities of the London, Chatham & Dover Railway appear to be in some danger of being rivalled by the Shanghai-Nanking. On Monday morning the 8.24 from Wusieh, advertised to reach Shanghai at 12.05, arrived just upon one o'clock; and the fact is mentioned because, we are told, it is no unusual feat with local trains. But why? If the expresses are run to time, there should not be the interminable waiting at various stages for an up train to pass that occurred with the train mentioned. And there are not so many trains in the day along the S.N.R. that congestion would seem likely. Even after the up trains had passed, some minutes elapsed before the down train was started. Add all these together, and include the time similarly wasted by other trains and the delay in arrival necessarily becomes big. Is it that the Oriental mind. cannot be compelled to appreciate the blessings of punctuality? If so, why advertise a train as due to arrive so long before there is a reasonable hope of its doing so?

Shanghai's Health

Not so many years ago insurance companies used to demand an extra premium for people going to live in Shanghai. In some if not all cases this is now discontinued, for which, no doubt, we have to thank the labours of our Public Health Department. At the same time the picture of Shanghai, presented by Dr. Hiltner to the American Woman's Club, is bound to have its critics, although it is not easy to see why. He pictures Shanghai as an eminently healthy place, a spot where sturdy children can be reared, and we know, also, that here people succeed in living to a ripe old age. Yet, get hold of the average resident during the summer, and he generally has something to say about Shanghai being the most dangerous place in the East in which to live. According to Lord Northcliffe, too, people at home seem to consider this the white man's grave. All these divergent views are probably correct, which often happens in a case of this sort. With a moderate amount of luck and moderate precautions all sorts of people seem to thrive here, yet others collapse, often for no apparent reason, precautions or no precautions.

Suicide in Japan

It is strange that the Japanese, with their placid outlook on life generally, seem to be more inclined to suicide than are perhaps any other people in the world. Yet that is the conclusion from the truly tragic figures published recently by the "*Hochi*." Reference is made to the "marked increase of late in the number of suicides in Japan" and the figures given are certainly astounding by comparison with those from other large centres throughout the world. According to the Statistical Department of the Metropolitan Police there were last year, in Tokio and district alone, 247 suicides by strangulation, 269 by drowning, 77 by *harakiri*, 264 by poisoning, and 121 on the railway track, practically, two suicides daily. It is of course futile to guess probable causes, though officially they are given as "disappointment in love," "divorce," "sickness," "family discord" and "difficulty of living." The ages of the victims ranged between 20 and 30 years and there were almost as many women suicides as men.

China's Barometer

About a month ago when the political sky in the north became overcast, with war clouds steadily gathering, a strongly adverse effect on Shanghai's trade was noticeable. Dealers who buy merchandise from the foreign hongs here and distribute it throughout the interior, at once shut up business, and the case was so bad that the weekly auctions of piece goods had to be suspended, as was done when armies were on the move in the 1911 Revolution. It was understood that they would remain in abeyance until the merchants gave the "all clear" signal, and this was not forthcoming until the present week. Even so, the Chinese approached the auctions with a very great amount of caution, hardly daring to buy more than the bare needs of the moment. Yesterday, however, this was all changed, and the auction was of a type calculated to dispel the fears of the most timid. From all over China there was a demand, and the result was that a quantity of goods considerably in excess of the amounts which have been offered in recent months, was disposed of at satisfactory prices. For this state of affairs there are two main reasons, one being a better rate for the tael. But even so, had the political outlook in the country not been re-assuring there would have been no *éclat* to the auction such as was the case. This is important, for as we see it, the struggle in the north is not yet over. Perhaps it is that the venue has shifted so far northeastward that it is unlikely to interfere further with trade, and so the merchants can set about their business with confidence once more. Of considerable interest also is the fact that Changsha was a heavy buyer, which would seem to denote that the much harassed province of Hunan no longer considers itself as likely to be a battlefield between North and South.

The Lotus Eaters

Depending upon the point of view adopted, the Race Course is to-day either a spot of enthralling interest or the most appalling place on earth. Until well on in the afternoon the coolie reigns supreme, and adapting the different grounds to his fancy of the moment, he does more in the way of absolute idling than anyone not of his class could hope to emulate. From time to time various gangs of the fraternity are seen to pull a mower or roller, but it is done in a dignified and leisurely kind of way, more as a change from the occupation of lounging about, it might be surmised, than with any intention of getting the work done. Other denizens of the place are seen to carry loads of bamboos at widely separated intervals, and there is much joy in this occupation. No motors disturb the free use of the terrain, and for once in his life the coolie is free to wander promiscuously with eyes closed and attention wandering afar. When he gets in the way of golfers and is warned off with shouts, if not imprecations, he evinces a mild surprise, and if he does show signs of getting out of the road they are very minor ones indeed. The younger idlers invent games of cricket for themselves, and it is to be presumed that meantime somebody or another is paying them for so doing, just as in the case of the sedate individuals who spend their mornings occupying the basket chairs before the Polo Club and from this coign of vantage placidly contemplate feverish foreigners who chase the elusive golf ball. Idling would appear to have been brought to a fine art, and of a truth it must be of infinite sweetness—idling at the cost of somebody else's pocket.

AN association has been formed inside the Chinese City for the extermination of flies and mosquitoes.

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CHINESE POLITICS

CHANG TSO-LIN DECLARES INDEPENDENCE

Defiance of Peking Government and Declaration that His Kingdom is no More Part of Republic

FENGTIEN ENTRENCHING ALONG THE GREAT WALL

SATURDAY.

Tientsin, May 12.

Fengtien troops with reinforcements from Mukden are concentrating over 50,000 strong round Changli and Lanchow and are entrenching. About an equal number of Chihli forces have detrained and are deploying near Tongshan, five miles from the Fengtien advance posts. Unless the retreat is resumed fighting is inevitable very shortly.

There is some apprehension for the safety of foreigners not only from troops but also and more especially from the miners, whom it has been impossible to supply with adequate food and pay during the last month, owing to the movements of troops.—Reuter.

FENGTIEN'S LOST LEGION.

Peking, May 12.

According to the latest official reports General Chang Tso-lin has brought within the Great Wall 110,000 troops, while General Wu Pei-fu's troops numbered 73,000, not counting 35,000 which remained with General Feng Yu-hsiang at Chenchow. By noon to-day 70,000 Fengtien soliders had surrendered and were disarmed. It is estimated that 8,000 Fengtien forces have reached Luanchow from the south.

According to foreign information, General Chang Tso-lin has 30,000 troops at Luanchow. He is also alleged to have brought up reinforcements, but the latter report appears excessive.

General Feng Yu-hsiang reports that he is now engaged in rounding up General Chao Chieh's defeated troops along the Lunghai Railway and that he will shortly resume operations.

A mandate issued last night appoints General Pao Teh-chuan Associate Director of Military Affairs in Honan and General Chang Teh-sheng Military Commissioner at Kueitch.

May 12.

It is reported that a conference is being held at Paoting to-day regarding the Premiership, which explains General Wu Pei-fu's visit. It is understood that General Tsao Kun wants Mr. Chin Yun-peng, while the President is adhering to to the nomination of General Wang Shih-chen, and a growing section of the public favours Dr. W. W Yen, thinking that Dr. Yen is best able to deal with the south and central China regarding reunification, for which it is generally recognized that a unique opportunity exists, particularly if the rumours of a *rapprochement* between General Wu Pei-fu and General Chen Chiung-ming may be believed. Various organizations are telegraphing to Peking urging the appointment of Dr. Yen as Premier.

The Governor of the Metropolitan area reports that in compliance with Presidential orders he has investigated the requirements of the villagers in the war zone and estimates that $800,000 compensation is necessary. General Wang Huai-ching, the Commandant of the Garrison reports that the $60,000 at first appropriated has proved insufficient for relief under his jurisdiction and that a further $60,000 is required.—Reuter.

EX-PREMIER IN KOBE.

Tokio, May 11.

Mr. Liang Shih-yi and one other ex-Cabinet Minister are reported to have arrived in Kobe.—Reuter.

MONDAY.

Independence of Manchuria

From Our Own Correspondent.

Tientsin, May 13.

General Chang Tso-lin has declared his independence.

Tientsin, May 13.

About a dozen troop trains with reinforcements went from Shanhaikuan to Luanchow yesterday and about an equal number of Chihli troop trains passed Tientsin going northeastwards.

The "Peking & Tientsin Times" understands on good authority that General Chang Tso-lin has issued a proclamation declaring the independence of Manchuria and stating that he is prepared to make treaties with friendly foreign Powers, who are invited to communicate with him at Luanchow.—Reuter.

MUKDEN'S RULER AT BAY.

Peking, May 13.

General Chang Tso-lin is evidently determined to make a final effort to save something from the wreck of his ambitions and is rallying his remaining forces for another stand. His new positions extend over a six-mile front, with the first line at Kaiping, the second at Kuyeh and the base at Luanchow. These are being strongly entrenched and manned with troops extricated from the recent rout and others fresh from Manchuria, while he is stated to have about 40 guns with which to support them.

General Wu Pei-fu at present has about 15,000 troops east of Tientsin.

Advices from Manchuria indicate that, notwithstanding the disaster which has befallen him, General Chang Tso-lin's position in Manchuria is still strong. It is even stated that he may declare the independence of the Three Eastern Provinces. It is further reported on good authority that the Government's four nominees for the Civil and Military Governorships of the Manchurian Provinces, Generals Wu Chun-shen and Feng Teh-ling and Messrs Yuan Chin-kai and Shih Chi-chang, are refusing to accept appointment, while various public bodies in Manchuria are preparing a joint protest against the dismissal of General Chang Tso-lin.

General Feng Yu-hsiang assumed the Tuchunship of Honan on Thursday.

HELP FROM THE SOUTH.

Concurrently with the change in General Chang Tso-lin's attitude, a renewed effort is apparent to revive the anti-Northern expedition, whose leader, General Li Lieh-chun, is reported to have telegraphed to General Chang, urging him to stand firm as the expedition is being mobilized, while the Tuchun of Kiangsi is stated to have applied to General Wu Pei-fu for assistance in resisting the threatened Southern advance.

General Chao Ti is taking refuge at Wusheh and is stated to be seeking terms from General Tsao Kun.—Reuter.

A HEAVY CONCENTRATION.

Mukden, May 12.

It is reported in political circles here that the Fengtien soldiers, concentrated in Luanchow, number some 50,000, and that the 27th Division, whose retreat was cut off for a time, is expected to join the main body of the Fengtien troops in a day or two, passing over the mountain pass. Chang Tso-lin is still anxious to have another fight and is endeavouring to improve the morale of his troops by effecting a big change in the leaders of the army and by appointing rising and competent military officers. Chang Tso-lin's intention to fight again is supported by the fact that units, which have assembled here from Heilungkiang and other quarters, are now being transported one after another to Shanhaikuan. It is generally considered in Mukden that the hostilities will be prolonged.—Eastern News Agency.

KALGAN GENERAL'S COUP.

Peking, May 11.

Details of developments which took place at Kalgan concurrently with General Wu Pei-fu's offensive at Changsintien have reached Peking. They cast some light on the attitude of General Tang Chih-ling, Military Commissioner of Hsuanhuafu, whose political leanings were regarded as somewhat doubtful when the recent trouble broke out.

It appears that immediately previous to General Wu's offensive the railway between Hsuanhuafu and Kalgan was cut by General Tang in order to prevent the movement of Fengtien reinforcements from Kalgan. A protest from the garrison at Kalgan followed, and by way of response General Tang moved on Kalgan with the support of a body of his former troops collected from

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Hankow and Fengchenhsien, and occupied it on May 5. In a proclamation issued on the following day he declared that Kalgan would normally have been under his jurisdiction and has been kept from him only through the activities of the Fengtien party, to whom he referred as traitors.

This move on the part of General Tang—quite unexpected it would appear—effectively blocked the passage of reinforcements, cut off the retreat of the Charhar troops and places the whole Kalgan district in the hands of General Wu. —Reuter.

DISARMED FENGTIENITES.

Peking, May 10.

In a report to the Government, General Yang I-teh states that he has accomplished the disarmament of a large number of Fengtien troops in his district. These included over 3,000 stragglers who were reported to be on the point of moving on Tientsin from the Tangku district. Communicating with their officers, General Yang promised that if they surrendered their arms and refrained from making trouble provision would be made for their return to Fengtien. They accepted these terms and gave up their weapons, including eight machine-guns and 2,900 rifles, and were duly sent homeward. Their number included General Chang Kuei-wu and 28 other officers.—Reuter.

POLITICAL REFUGEES IN JAPAN.

Tokio, May 13.

With reference to the presence of Mr. Liang Shih-yi and other Chinese ex-Cabinet Ministers in Japan, a high official of the Japanese Foreign Office, interviewed by Reuter's representative to-day, declared that the Government was totally unconnected with the visit of these political refugees, who would not be permitted to use this country as their base of political intrigue. Their former official standing would not be recognized, but they would be accorded the same treatment as visitors from other countries. Instructions to this effect, he stated, had been sent to the Provincial Governors and police officials.—Reuter.

TUESDAY.

The Proscribed

Peking, May 15.

Mandates issued this afternoon accept the resignation of the Tartar-General of Chahar, General Chang Ching-hui, and appoint the Commander of the Koupei Garrison, General Tang Ching-lin, to succeed him as Acting Tartar-General.—Reuter.

WEDNESDAY.

Chihli Preparations

Peking, May 15.

General Chang Tso-lin's telegram announcing the independence of the Northern regions has not reached the Diplomatic Corps at Peking except through the Consular officials at Tientsin. The Chinese Government denies receipt of the telegram. The Diplomatic Corps, however, appears to take the message at its face value.

Tremendous interest is attached in Peking to General Chang Tso-lin's announcement of the independence of Manchuria in view of General Chang's estranged relation with the Bolsheviks, as the independence of these regions, in conjunction with the Japanese position in the Maritime Province and Kamschatka, practically cuts off Soviet Russia from the sea in the Far East. Furthermore, the Chinese Government recently appeared likely to regain Outer Mongolia by peaceful means, which may now be frustrated, as it is unlikely that the Russian forces will be withdrawn unless General Chang Tso-lin is first of all suppressed.

Yesterday General Chang Tso-lin was at Changli with his main forces at Luanchow and advanced posts at Kuyeh and Kaiping, while there is one Chihli Brigade at Tangshan. Four thousand Fengtien reinforcements reached Luanchow yesterday. General Wu Pei-fu is sending forces to the north and is diligently preparing for further hostilities, but a battle is improbable before about a week.

May 16.

General Chang Tso-lin's only overt act in pursuance of his declaration of independence so far appears to be a notification to the Postal Commissioner at Mukden that all postal revenues must be handed over to him. It is considered significant that General Chang signed the declaration as Commander-in-Chief of the Fengtien Army and not as President or monarch. It is persistently reported that General Chang intends to establish a kingdom, although the Manchu restoration is not suspected.

Fighting occurred near Kuyeh on Sunday. A hundred wounded Chihli soldiers have since passed Chunliangcheng.—Reuter.

Tientsin, May 16.

General Feng Yu-hsiang's 11th Division passed Tientsin on its way to Tongshan to-day.—Reuter.

THE KAILAN MINES.

Tientsin, May 16.

The Fengtien troops, which have been holding their own on the front line of battle in the districts of Kaipin and Kuyeh, yesterday gave up their trenches and have to all appearance made Lunchow the first line of battle and Changli the second line of battle. This move on the part of the Fengtien troops appears to be due to their apprehension that if they should fight in the districts of Kuyeh and Kaipin, a diplomatic problem would be created in consideration of the Kailan Mining Company.—Eastern News Agency.

A Sturdy Document

The "*Sinwanpao*" states that the following is the text of Chang Tso-lin's declaration of independence:—

I have received Peking's telegrams and mandates but I am taking no notice of them as I do not now recognize that the Three Eastern Provinces, Jehol, Chahar and Inner and Outer Mongolia are part of the Republic of China under the jurisdiction the Peking Government. Now therefore, I am personally assuming control over these places. All lives and properties of citizens of friendly nations will be protected to the best of my ability and all former treaties shall be recognized as binding. I hereby announce that I have declared the independence of the places mentioned and hereafter all matters relating to foreign affairs must be brought to my notice at the General Headquarters at Luanchow where they will receive due and proper consideration. Beginning from this date, this General Command will not recognize as binding any treaties that may be made relating to the above mentioned places without authority first having been obtained from us.

THURSDAY.

Chihli Advancing on Fengtien

Tientsin, May 13.

About 20 trains of Chihli troops left for the northeast yesterday, including the 21st Brigade of the 11th Division. Chihli officers are interfering with the railway staff and the traffic is much disorganized. A hundred men of Coke's Rifles left for the mining area yesterday.

General Chang Tso-lin has renamed the railway from Kaiping to the east. He has also ordered a new flag and crest for the new state. He is attempting to seize all the Manchurian Salt, Customs, Railway and Postal revenues.

The "Peking & Tientsin Times" states that the Paotingfu Conference decided to reconvene the first Republican Parliament. It says that this would finally dispose of the pretension of President Hsu Shih-chang to be legal president, which constitutes an insuperable obstacle to the unification of China

May 16.

According to those who have personally inspected the front line of battle on May 14, the Chihli troops have established their headquarters at Chunliangcheng, and the 23rd Chihli Division is now living under canvas.

At Taku and Hsukechuang stations, there are only a small number of patrols, the main body of the Chihli forces stationing in several places at some distance from the railway line. In the meantime, the Fengtien troops have already constructed trenches on both sides of Kaiping station with Tangshan as a neutral zone. These trenches are being guarded by the 7th Mixed Brigade of Fengtien. In the district of Kuyeh, the 28th Fengtien Division also has constructed trenches, placing several field-guns in front of Kuyeh station.

Chang Tso-lin has his general headquarters inside a train at Luanchow station and is daily busying himself both in attending to business and reviewing Feng-

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tien soldiers there. At Luanchow station, there were more than ten goods-waggons connected with several carriages, filled with war weapons. There were several hangars in the vicinity of the station. In the district of Changli, about one division of the Fengtien troops is stationed with General Hsu Lan-chou as its Commander. The Fengtien troops above mentioned have their headquarters at Shanhaikuan, keeping sentries on the railroad between Kaiping and Shanhaikuan.

The Fengtien troops are now constructing trenches on a large scale outside Shanhaikuan, but they are doing these defensive works only by night, as in the daytime they are afraid of bombardment from the Chinese men-of-war belonging to the Chihli troops.—Eastern News Agency.

WANTED A PREMIER.

Peking, May 17.

Generals Tsao Kun and Wu Pei-fu yesterday telegraphed to General Wang Shih-chen urging his immediate acceptance of the Premiership, pointing out that the unsatisfactory Cabinet situation was holding up important questions and promising not to interfere in the appointment of the personnel of the Cabinet, which General Wang might determine with the President.

In addition to his threat to take all the postal and telegraph revenues of Mukden, it is reported that General Chang Tso-lin is establishing a railway bureau in Manchuria at Koupengtze, headed by Mr. Liu Chang-nien, former Vice-President of the Peking-Mukden Railway.

The majority of the Chinese papers predict that Mr. Tung Kang will be the next Minister of Finance and Mr. Kao Eng-hung Minister of Communications. Meanwhile, the Acting Minister, Mr. Kao Ling-wei, has reduced the staff of the Ministry of Communications by 300 from the various departments.

Advices from Szechuan say that Gen. Liu Hsiang has composed his disfferences with Gen. Hsiong Keh-wu and that they conjointly contemplate operations against Gen. Wu Pei-fu, while Gen. Chen Shu-fan threatens to invade Shensi, but all appear to be awaiting the issue of further developments in the north.—Reuter.

NEUTRALITY OF JAPAN.

Tokio, May 16.

Count Uchida, the Foreign Minister, in a statement here today, said: "There is no reason to presuppose any change in the situation or the necessity for any change in the attitude of the policy of Japan in Manchuria because of the recent announcement of independence. Of course, the interests of Japan in that province are very large but the relations between the Chinese people in Manchuria and the Japanese have been increasingly cordial throughout the last 15 years. So long as life and property are safeguarded there is no reason why we should anticipate trouble. Japan will remain strictly neutral in every way and will not give assistance to either side, but she hopes for an early adjustment of the differences which are at present harmful only to China and China's prestige abroad.—Reuter.

FRIDAY.

Fengtien's Plan of Campaign

The following interesting version of the plan of attack prepared by the Fengtien party to meet the menace of Wu Pei-fu is culled from the "*Shun-pao*" by whose Peking correspondent it has been contributed.

Chang Tso-lin's original plan, which is detailed below, was disclosed to the Chihli party by a member of the Chiaotung Party before it could be put into execution:—

(1)—Purchase of support—Chang Tso-lin subscribed $8,000,000; Chang Hsun $4,000,000 ($2,000,000 paid first); the Chiaotung clique $3,000,000; a prince of the Manchu Court $2,000,000; or $17,000,000 in all. One man was given $2,000,000, five men $300,000 each; Chen Shu-fan $100,000, two others $100,000 each, the Navy promised $200,000 if it would support Chang. Chang Tsung-ch'ang, Wu Kuang-hsin and others were given a certain amount to proceed to Tsingtao in secret where they were to enlist troops to disturb the peace of Shantung. The balance was reserved to cover military expenses.

(2)—Date for Action—On April 15, Chao Chieh was to be ordered to start fighting at Chungmow-hsien. At the same time, Shantung was to rise in support of Honan. The Fengtien army would then assign two divisions to Chang Hsun who would bring them to Hsuchow where a certain person (Chang Wen-sung) would join him. Chang Tso-lin was then to lead his Fengtien troops in person to this side of the Great Wall, protecting Peking and gradually advancing against Paoting. When Chang Hsun arrived at Hsuchow, Fengtien troops would make an intensive attack upon Paoting, cutting the railway south of the town; while Cheng Hung-nien (acting Vice-Minister of Communications) would undertake the destruction of the Yellow River Bridge, cutting off Wu Pei-fu's communication with Hupeh and preventing reinforcements from reaching him.

(3)—After the Coup—Abolish the Tuchunate. Chao Chieh to be appointed Commander-in-Chief of Honan; Wang Chan-yuan to be Inspector General of Hunan and Hupeh; Chao Ti to be C.-in-C. of Hupeh; Chang Hsun to be Inspector-General of Kiangsu, Anhui and Kiangsi and concurrently C.-in-C. of Kiangsi; Li Hou-chi to be C.-in-C. of Fukien; Chen Tien to be C.-in-C. of Hunan; Chang Chin-hui, to be C.-in-C. of Chahar; Chih Chin-shun to be C.-in-C. of Jehol; Tsao Jui to be C.-in-C. of Chihli; Chang Hseuh-liang (Chang Tso-lin's son) to be C.-in-C. of Fengtien; Sun Lieh-chu, Wu Chin-shen and Ma Liang to be C.-in-C.'s of Kirin, Heilungkiang and Shantung, respectively; Chang Tso-hsiang to be Inspector General of Chihli, Shantung and Honan. A certain person (probably Tuan Chi-jui) to be Provisional President, resident at Machang. Chang Tso-lin to be concurrently Vice-President. Liang Shih-yi to continue as Premier. The old parliament was to be summoned; Hsu Shih-chang was to be forced to leave Peking.

All the provincial delegates agreed to the above plan, including Tsao Jui, a younger brother of Tsao Kun and Civil Governor of Chihli now on leave.

Japanese Press Comment

Tokio, May 18.

With regard to the declaration of independence by Chang Tso-lin, the "*Jiji*" states:—

Though some Chinese newspapers are circulating rumours that Japan is assisting Chang Tso-lin, it is a fact that she is not in the least rendering him any aid. The fact is that there is no justification for the step he has taken in declaring independence as a sequel to his defeat. His disregard of the sovereignty of China can never be recognized by the Powers. On the contrary, the continuance of China's internal troubles tends to impel all foreigners to the belief that the Chinese people have no ability to govern their own country, thus incurring the possibility of intervention of the Powers. It is for this reason that we cannot help calling for grave reflexion on the part of the Chinese people.

The "*Yomiuri*" says:—

That Chang Tso-lin has declared his independence as a consequence of his defeat in a private war can have no influence with Chinese and foreigners. Such a move on his part must be taken as matter of annoyance not only to China herself but also to Japan, as it is detrimental to China's national welfare and happiness.—Eastern News Agency.

FLIGHT OF TUCHUN OF HONAN

Together with Brother: Revolt Ended: Foreign Life and Property Unhurt

From Our Own Correspondent.

Kaifeng, May 14.

General Chao Ti, Tuchun of Honan, and his brother, General Chao Chieh, have fled.

General Feng Yu-hsiang (ally of Wu Pei-fu) entered Kaifeng today, to an enthusiastic reception.

Lung-Hai Ry, May 13.

At Hsuchow last night the railway people could only assure us that we might get as far as Kueitehfu—which is half way exactly from Hsuchow to Kaifeng. Rumours are still very many and very diverse as to the state of affairs west of here. But from the

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whole mass of conflicting reports this much at least seems true.

Chao Chieh, the third brother of the Governor of Honan, either on his own initiative or with the full concurrence of his brother, attacked Feng Yu-hsiang's forces evidently in the region of Chungmowhsien. That he suffered a severe defeat is evident from the persistent rumour that he is either killed or very severely wounded. That he was defeated is shown likewise in the authenticated news that Kueitehfu was looted on the night of Thursday last. The Hsuchow manager of the British-American Tobacco Co. had a message from their Kueiteh representative to that effect. Details are still lacking as to how much suffering has been experienced in this outbreak. Nor is it known who are the offenders. A letter from missionaries in Kueiteh, written on the 7th instant, expressed fears of this eventuality as, "the report is" said the letter, "that the Eastern Divisional Commander Pao has been killed" No trains have moved between Kaifeng and Kueiteh since the 5th instant. Soldiers on the train say that Kueiteh city gates are not being opened now. No word of any distress for missionary residents there.

The news of Kaifeng that seems to express seemingly the exact condition of affairs there is as follows:

Some days ago when it became known that Governor Chao would be superseded panic seized the people. Students of all government schools stampeded and the foreign ladies of the railway officials' homes were moved to Hsuchow.

Feng Yu-hsiang's soldiers fill every possible place in the south suburb: all mission compounds are guarded and evidently no injury to any foreigner is reported. Governor Chao is locked in the city and General Feng is expected in Kaifeng to-day.

The railway engineers at Hsuchow say that the railway bridge at Pei Sha—the main Lung-Hai station nearest Chengchow on the Kaifeng side—has been blown up and that they expect to be moved thither to-morrow to start repairs.

KAIFENG LOOTED

Defeated Tuchun's Soldiers Exact Journey Money

Kaifeng, May 16.

The southern suburb of Kaifeng was looted by General Chao Ti's soldiers on May 11. No foreigners were injured. The Mission property was not affected though there was much indiscriminate shooting.

General Chao Ti fled on May 12 in a train to Mamuchi, east of Kueiteh, whence he proceeded to Pochow.

General Chao Chieh's whereabouts is not known, but the remnants of his defeated soldiers are proceeding east from Kaifeng.

General Feng Yu-hsiang entered Kaifeng on May 14 and rapidly and effectively restored order. His troops are now rapidly marching eastward along the Lunghai Railway clearing up the surrounding country.

Traffic from Kaifeng to Chengchow was resumed yesterday but the service between Kaifeng and Hsuchowfu is again discontinued owing to the menace of the routed soldiers. One train left Hsuchowfu for Kaifeng on Sunday, the only train which has run for 10 days. The service will shortly be resumed as stragglers are rapidly being rounded up.

General Chao Ti's officials who were dismissed are now being kept in detention. The situation is well in hand and is approaching normal. Foreigners and the Chinese Red Cross Society are organizing the care of 3,000 wounded soldiers, who are mostly General Chao Ti's troops, from the Chengchow area.—Reuter.

Fresh Trouble in Kueichow

Peking, May 9.

From Kueichow a fresh upheaval is reported, due apparently to the loss of prestige suffered by the opponents of General Wu Pei-fu and the Central Government. A movement is said to be on foot having as its object the setting up of a party opposed to Dr. Sun Yat-sen but friendly to Generals Wu Pei-fu and Chen Chiung-ming.—Reuter.

Peking's Private Guards

Peking, May 12.

The Peking Gendarmerie have ordered the abolition of the so-called guards which escort various officials and their families. Their arms will be collected by the police and offenders will henceforth be arrested and tried. Only high police and military officials will henceforward be allowed to use guards, consisting of regulars.—Reuter.

CONSORTIUM IN COUNCIL

London, May 17.

The Special Council of the China Consortium held a two days' meeting at the offices of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, with Sir Charles Addis presiding and M. Delachaume, Mr. T. W. Lamont and Marquis Okubu present. They discussed the general policy of the Consortium and the conclusions reached were embodied in a report for submission to the groups composing the Consortium Council. The meeting then adjourned. The next meeting will be held in October, either in London or Paris.—Reuter.

New York, May 18.

It is unofficially reported that the Chinese Consortium is withdrawing from China until the civil war has ceased.

The report apparently is due to an announcement by Messrs. J. P. Morgan that Mr. F. W. Stevens, the representative of the American Group at Peking, is returning to America on May 30 on vacation. —Reuter's Special Sevice.

OPIUM IN VLADIVOSTOK

Government Raising Money

Peking, May 11.

A few weeks ago the International Anti-Opium Association conveyed the information to the Chinese Foreign Office that an opium monopoly had been established in Vladivostok with the authority of the Vladivostok Government. The Waichiaopu at first questioned the accuracy of the report but has since made its own inquiries and ascertained that the conditions are even worse than was originally stated by the Association.

When the territory in question was under the control of the Russian Monarchy a certain amount of land was leased to Chinese and Koreans for cultivation of poppy along the Eastern Coast and in districts bordering on Kirin Province. But after a protest had been lodged by the Chinese Consul-General against such cultivation the Russian Government issued an edict entirely prohibiting such leases.

This is in striking contrast to present conditions, for not only is the Vladivostok Government deaf to all protests but it appears determined to raise money by opium taxes. The so-called monopoly does not in reality restrict the trade, but allows the farming out to business interests which are encouraged in making the traffic as successful from the monetary point of view as it is pernicious.

Inquiries made by the Association show that there are 62 licensed opium dens in Vladivostok.—Reuter.

THOSE in the community who used to wear the steel helmet in their days spent at the front will fully appreciate the presence of mind shown by a Chinese gentleman travelling by train between Tientsin and Peking only the other day. The buffet car was well filled, among the number being a Chihli soldier As the train steamed along, a Fengtien infantryman came in sight, limping wearily in the direction of Tientsin and, as he fondly hoped, safety. No sooner did the Chihli man sight him than he brought his rifle to the aim, and, pressing the trigger, apparently dropped the Fengtienite. Something akin to panic ensued in the car. There was a mad rush to get beneath tables and seats, and all succeeded in doing so except the Chinese gentleman alluded to above who was too corpulent to hope of taking cover in this manner. But, as we have mentioned, his presence of mind did not desert him. He had apparently read of the benefits accruing to the troops from the use of the steel helmet, and not having one handy he proceeded to improvize one. The only thing to hand was a cuspidor, but clapping it on his head he faced the world with equanimity.

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OUTPORTS

KUANGSI'S DEPLORABLE PLIGHT

Cities Isolated, Villages Deserted; Looting and Burning Rife: Militarism Rampant and the Peasants' Patience all but Exhausted

From Our Own Correspondent.

Nanning, Kuangsi, Apr. 17.

Everything is quiet in Nanning at present, but the city is full of rumours and fears of coming troubles. The Canton officials are not in favour of retaining this place as the provincial capital. For them it is too far from Canton, and they would prefer Wuchow or even Kuaipeng.

We have certainly been very much "cut off," but it is Canton's inefficient rule of the province that is responsible for that. Robbers and disbanded Kuangsi soldiers control the country and hold up traffic, robbing, killing, or holding to ransom travellers, postal couriers, junkmen and any others falling into their hands. The districts round Kueilin and Lungchow have been laid waste by these roving bands, and other parts of the country, such as Moming and its villages have been razed to the ground by Canton troops.

ISOLATED CITIES.

The Liuchao, Poseh and Lungchow rivers are practically closed to traffic and these cities are isolated. It is sometimes possible to get through the bandit barriers on the West River by submitting to blackmail. In one place, through which the writer recently passed, $6 was demanded from every sampan and $480 from the motor boats. His particular motor boat did not feel equal to paying such an exorbitant sum, and after waiting three days outside the danger zone to pluck up its courage determined to break through. Compressed bales of paper were taken from the cargo and formed an excellent barrier against bullets when piled up on the sides of the boat. Though 20 minutes under fire, no one was hit! The guard on the boat did very well during the encounter. Other boats, however, elsewhere have not been so fortunate; one, for instance, losing 50 killed, not counting the wounded.

INFURIATED PEASANTS.

The peasants in the province have been worked up to a pitch of indescribable fury. Last month they rose in a body in the Moming district. Women as well as men had secured rifles; and those who had no fire arms used their farm implements. The Canton soldiers could not stand the onrush of this mob and fled. The battle was raging one day only 7 miles from the city of Nanning itself, which would assuredly have fallen if reinforcements from Canton had not arrived in the very nick of time. There are now only two buildings standing in the whole city of Moming—one is the post office, the other a yamen. For miles the whole country is dead—not a vestige of life to be seen.

It seems to have been definitely decided that the Canton troops will evacuate western Kuangsi. Old Kuangsi soldiers are moving in; and Lan, the Kuangsi official who surrendered Wuchow to Chen Chiung-ming, is expected here shortly, to take over charge. Lu Yung-ting and the former military leaders of the province, however, are against coming to any sort of terms and it is to be feared that this arrangement will make for still more trouble. The Cantonese residents are in terror of reprisals, and numbers of the leading merchants are leaving with their families. There is nothing certainly to keep them here, business being conspicuous by its absence. Governor Ma, himself, is departing in a few days.

WAR'S RAVAGES.

A foreigner in the service of the Chinese Government, who knows most of the 18 provinces, told me that he had never seen any conditions at all approaching those of Kuangsi at this present time. A commonly expressed opinion is that "things have been put back ten years at least."

In the late years of the Manchu *régime* a stranger could travel almost anywhere without fear. The opium trade had been practically wiped out, and gambling was suppressed We shall congratulate ourselves if we can really recover in ten years the position we had reached ten years ago!

A great task lies before those who will undertake reconstruction. Villages have been depopulated, farms burned, cattle driven away, junks broken up to escape being commandeered, and public confidence in governments and officials gone If a strong man is not forthcoming, the peasants will rise in a body to wreak their vengeance indescriminately and poor Kuangsi will be swallowed up in the vortex of anarchy.

THE LUNGCHOW DISTRICT

From Our Own Correspondent.

Lungchow, Kuangsi, Apr. 23.

As an oasis in the burning desert cheers and refreshes a traveller who has grown tired and thirsty through the monotony and grind over the hot burning sand, so the appearance of the green-coated mail man brought a moment of joy to the members of the foreign community of Lungchow. It is now 33 days since the first attack upon the city took place by the Kuangsi soldiers and during that time there has been but one mail come through. This arrived about April 12 under a guard of about 200 Kuangtung soldiers. Apart from the above mentioned time, there has been no communication with the Tonking border. At the beginning of the trouble telegraph wires were cut and still remain severed. The river to Nanning was opened one time by the soldiers who accompanied General Wong Ming-tung, the Commissioner of Border Police, but the motor boats that came up with his men returned to Nanning and since have been unable to come back again.

GENERAL WONG.

The long expected coming of Wong P'ui-kuai, a former general of the Kuangsi army, has at last been fulfilled. General Wong has turned over to the Kuangtung forces, and has come to Lungchow district with the intention of calling in the scattered Kuangsi soldiers, and hopes to be able to form from these men the nucleous of the new Kuangsi army which will be stationed in this district. How he will eventually succeed is another question, but his hopes had a poor foundation to begin with. Soon after his arrival he went with a small guard, and his staff, to a town near by, to begin his work of pacification, but to his surprise the Kuangsi men in that place were not as receptive as they might have been and, as a result, 16 of his guard and staff were killed, and he himself detained. At the present time he is still in the hands of his captors. It is said that he is not so well liked by the soldiers as he had hoped to be, for during the old *régime* when money for his soldiers was paid to him, according to military custom, he pocketed the larger part for the erection of his home.

ROUGH AND READY METHODS.

The day General Wong P'ui-kuai arrived was certainly not a good one on which the Kuangsi soldiers could rest much hope for their fair treatment should they surrender arms, for, at noon, six men were executed, for having taken part in or being accused of having participated in the trouble that is now existing. One need not be actually convicted of helping the Kuangsi soldiers but merely be accused, and should he not have strong friends to help him, his hopes for his life are very slender. Former officers of the Kuangsi army, who at the beginning of the Kuangtung investment of the city last autumn surrendered their arms, and returned to their business, have had to flee for their lives, in some cases their property being confiscated, and their families made to bear the brunt of the persecution.

The burning of villages and the stealing of property still goes on as a part of the price of warfare. The other night a party of soldiers returning from Pangtseung, a town that had been besieged by the Kuangsi men but which had been relieved by Kuangtung soldiers, sent out from Lungchow,

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drove in over 100 head of cattle. This cattle, on which depends the tilling of the soil, was sold very cheaply to the people of the city and adjourning villages, from whom a few days before their own cattle were stolen and killed for army rations. These cattle brought in from Pangtseung were taken I presume as pay for the heroic work done by the valiant, courageous looters. Now that the cattle are in the hands of the villagers nearer the city they will be easy of access when again wanted by the soldiers.

DESERTED VILLAGES.

It was my privilege the other day to do a little sightseeing, so I walked out along the roads leading to the border, for a distance of about three miles. After passing several Kuangtung outposts, I came to the remains of several villages. Until recently these villages were considered very prosperous but one need not look a second time to estimate their present value. All that remains is a few mud or brick walls and some burned timbers. Scattered about are the broken tiles and crockery. Several sugar presses still stand where they were deserted by the villagers who fled before the ravagers. Further along were smaller villages similarly treated and, by the roadside, the remains of several cows, which had been shot by the Kuangtung soldiers while looting. The carcases were left where they had fallen, to spread their aroma to the breeze.

The French Consulate and the French Church Compound are still the refuge of about 1,000 men, women and children, who fled from adjoining villages. A village close by the Consulate was looted but through the good offices of the consul this place was spared from the flames.

A welcome proclamation has been issued, forbidding all looting without official orders. One man who disobeyed this order was shot, as an example.

MARSHAL Chang Tso-lin is reported by the Chinese press to have lodged a protest with the Diplomatic Corps for permitting General Wu Pei-fu to use the Peking-Mukden Railway, the free use of which was denied him several weeks ago. Chang threatens, in case of further fighting, that he will not be responsible for the loss of foreign lives or property, or damage thereto.

A certain liveliness is observable in the political situation in this province. Report has it that trouble is to be fomented, a mobilization of bandits being in process of organization for that purpose. The Tuchun's secret service has received information regarding the project, and as a consequence of details in his possession has instructed his local subordinates to watch for a man named Chang Tsun, who is reported to be in the vicinity for the purposes of this unrest.

THE RETURN OF TANG CHI-YAO

Vivid Account of How the Ex-Tuchun of Yunnan Met His End

POPULACE KOWTOW TO THE NEW POWER

From Our Own Correspondent.

Yunnanfu, April 24.

It is now possible to give a few details of the manner in which the former governor Ku Ping-chen met his death.

When Hu Roh-yu, the general in command of Tang Chi-yao's troops, passed through Yiliang on his way to Yunnanfu it was decided by Ku and his generals to make another attack on the former place in the hopes of separating Tang who was coming up from Amicheo, from the main body of his army.

The attempt was at first entirely successful, but General Hu Roh-yu who had just entered Yunnanfu immediately despatched by train the main body of his army in order to save the situation, and owing to the fact that the late acting governor Kin, who had retired from Yunnanfu with about 2,000 men, failed to respond to Ku Ping-chen's orders to make another attack on the city of Yunnanfu, in order to draw of some of Hu Roh-yu's troops Ku Ping-chen had to suffer another reverse and this led to his final undoing. He was compelled to beat another retreat from the vicinity of Yiliang and in doing so became separated from the main body of his army who had fled in the direction of Kuhtsing.

Ku and some members of his staff were surrounded in the hill by a band of bandits fighting for Tang and escape became impossible. It appears that Ku's bodyguard strongly urged him to escape and they would fight a way through the cordon, but this he flatly refused to do, and divesting himself of his outer clothing he commenced to help his men to serve the two guns he had with him. Presently a shot wounded him in the arm, and again his men exhorted him to try and escape, but again he refused when another shot wounded him in the leg and brought him to earth. His men offered to carry him to a hiding place, but he seems to have become furious at this suggestion and drawing a revolver ordered his men to save themselves and threatened to shoot any who disobeyed his orders. At this, seeing that it was hopeless to hold out any longer, his men fled, some hiding in ditches and some in the brushwood and one two finally made their escape to Yunnanfu bringing these details with them.

ALONE AND FORSAKEN.

Presently, alone and forsaken, General Ku Ping-chen sat on the mountain side, revolver in hand waiting calmly the approach of the enemy, who even now were advancing very cautiously to take him, and as two of them drew near to him he informed them that he was the governor of the province Ku, and they immediately attempted to bayonet him, but he was too quick for them and before they touched him he had shot himself through the heart. The two bandits thereupon bayoneted him in the neck nearly severing the head from the body, and making a rough bamboo framework tied the corpse to it and putting a cigarette into the mouth they reared it up against the wall and held it up to the scorn and ridicule of the bandit tribe.

The new government as soon as they heard of the death of Ku immediately ordered that the body should be coffined and gave $3,000 for the purpose, but who eventually got this money is a mystery for the cropse was brought to Yunnanfu in a cheap deal coffin worth about $20 only, and the body had been very unceremoniously thrown into it; minus boots and one stocking, and with part of his undergarments missing. It has now been properly encased in a very costly bier by his family who have spared no expense, having paid nearly $10,000 for the coffin alone; and is now resting in his own garden waiting a favourable opportunity for interment.

A TRIUMPHAL ENTRY.

The arrival of General Tang Chi-yao gave an opportunity for many of the people to show the respect in which he is held. It appeared as if the whole of the populace was out to bid him welcome. All the public bodies, parliament, chamber of commerce, police, schools, charitable institutions, foreign firms and missions, were all at the station to witness his arrival and bid him welcome, and even the editors of some of the papers that had been foremost in holding him up to ridicule and contempt were there too.

The French railway authorities had accommodated themselves to the occasion and a reception room was fixed up where the representatives of the different public bodies received the conquering general. Presently the special train arrived and Tang alighted dressed in a simple military uniform without decoration of any kind and accompanied by some members of his staff. He first shook hands with all the foreigners and was then escorted into the reception room where the official welcome to the city was accorded him, and champagne—which flowed rather freely—was drunk his health.

The route from the station to the government building was lined with people and though there were a few police regulating them, it appeared that things had been arranged so as to allow the welcome

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to be as spontaneous as possible. Flags and bunting festooned every building, while even the small barbers' shop hung out the five colour to show that they were glad of his return. Contrasted with the arrival of General Ku, just 14 months earlier, the difference was most marked, and General Tang must have felt flattered as he contrasted his return with his precipitate flight.

At a dinner given to the foreign community a few nights after his arrival General Tang very heartily thanked the French for their help in restoring him to power, and explained that his voluntary retirement from the province 14 months ago was brought about by the fact that the cares of office had been a great strain on him and a rest and a holiday became imperative. He reminded the guests that he had been governor for over eight years and the work involved had been most exacting, and so he voluntarily retired to Hongkong. Now, in response to the urgent entreaties of the people of Yunnan, who had suffered severely from the misgovernment of the late *régime*, he had come back, as he felt he would be lacking in loyalty and love to his fatherland had be refused to assume the responsibility of trying to save his native soil from anarchy and bloodshed. Unfortunately his return, which he intended to be quite peaceable and friendly, had been misunderstood by the Ku *régime* and so fighting and bloodshed had resulted, bringing suffering to the local people and inconvenience and loss to his foreign friends. For this he tended to each and all a hearty and sincere apology, and vowed that his rule should be in accordance with the principles of democracy, while he guaranteed the dignity and the peace of the people etc.

EDITORIAL SOMERSAULTS.

It has been really amusing to notice the complete volte-face of the different papers which supported the Ku *régime*, but who have now completely turned round and have to flatter the new governor. One of them about a week before the old *régime* was overthrown, referred to Tang Chi-yao in very scathing terms, calling him a robber and declared that the solution of provincial troubles would only be reached when they captured Tang and offered him in sacrifice to the people whom he had so greatly sinned against. It also published a proclamation threatening to have his skin taken from him and to distribute his flesh among an enraged populace, etc. But only three days after Tang's arrival in Yunnanfu this same paper published an article in large type referring to him as the saviour come down from heaven, for as soon as Tang had reached the city much needed rain fell, and the diptheria, which had worked havoc for nearly a year, began to abate—and much more of a similar nature. This kind of talk so enraged some persons unknown that in the dead of the night they dragged the editor out of bed and gave him one of the soundest thrashings an editor ever received. Now the paper is for the time being suspended.

Most of the members of the late government are on the run and soldiers have been sent after them to try and run them to earth. We have heard that the Acting Governor under the Ku *régime* has managed to escape into Szechuan, while the ex-chief of police has also got across the river that divides the two provinces. General Ho Kan-chen and ex-pacificator Pei-chuin, who was formerly a governor of Szechuan, have been captured and are under arrest.

THE ETERNAL SHORTAGE.

Of course the great difficulty here as elsewhere is the wherewithal to pay the troops and the government is at its wits' end to know what to do next. Tens of thousands of soldiers are clamouring for arrears of pay and many more ex-bandits are demanding the rewards promised to them. If these can be satisfied, then it may be comparitively easy for the province to settle down once more and a few years of tranquillity may be looked forward to; if, on the other hand, the money is not forthcoming then we may expect to see much looting and burning by the infuriated bandits who have had large promises given them. Their numbers will be swollen by a dissatisfied army and it is quite within the realm of possibility that Wu Hsioh-shien may remind Tang that he reigns at his caprice only. Already ugly rumours are current that the bandits are getting out of hand, and are adopting to the new *régime* a threatening attitude. It is difficult to estimate the value of such reports, but certain things are happening that lend colour to the view that Tang may yet experience great difficulty in pacifying Wu Hsioh-shien, the bandit chief who more than any other contributed to the ultimate victory of the victors.

To meet this imperative necessity the government, it is reported, are negotiating with the French government for a loan of fifteen million dollars, the security offered being certain mining property in the South, with freedom to exploit all the mines in the province and a concession for a railway between here and Tallifu. We wonder what the consortium will have to say to this.

DR. TAYLOR'S RELEASE.

One of the good results of Tang Chi-yao's victory was the release of Dr. Taylor from captivity. When Dr. Thompon of the C. M. S. met General Hu Roh-yu at Yiliang in connexion with the arrangement of an armistice he requested that as a favour the general would do all he could to effect the liberation of Dr. Taylor. Hu immediately consented and wrote to Pu Siao-hong asking him to release his foreign captive and to see that he was properly escorted to Yunnanfu. Within three days of the despatch of the letter Dr. Taylor was on his way to the capital where a little later he was welcomed by his many friends.

KIANGSU'S GRAIN SCARCITY

Its Evil Effects: Relief at Hand: War's Echoes: Disorderly Soldiers

From Our Own Correspondent.

Suchien, Ku., May 1.

We have had our first thunderstorm this year, which has brought welcome rain. The wheat is now coming on quickly, and putting hope in the hearts of many that have been coming through famine conditions. This last month there has been a terrible scarcity of grain. The granaries had a limited supply; and could only open for a few hours per day to the waiting crowds, that had come as far as 40 li for 3 sheng of grain, the amount alloted to each individual. Day after day we could hear of persons crushed to death: one woman, a young person, had her brains trampled out. As many as 5,000 came one day for this small supply of grain. Within the last few days boats are bringing up grain so the situation has been very much relieved.

ECHOES OF WAR.

We hear echoes of war preparations in Hsuchowfu, north of us. Scholars from Suchien who are in the Hsuchow schools, have been writing home about the numbers of soldiers arriving in that place The new soldiers sent to protect us up here are not giving very much satisfaction to the citizens. They seem to have plenty of spare time to roam about the streets. We had a stabbing affair on the street the other evening, and though they managed to get away, report has it that they were camp soldiers. A boatman came home with some money, which he changed into copper cash and carried in a bag over his shoulder. He was accosted, report has it, by some soldiers. He explained his circumstances, but the men set upon him and tried to relieve him of his cash. Being unwilling to part with it readily they took a knife and stabbed him in the face. Fortunately, he was near his friend or relation's home when it happened, and they heard his cries and came to his rescue—and the soldiers made off.

THE TUFEI.

The tufei are a little better in the immediate vicinity of Suchien just now, but still active in the country districts.

At a place named T'sai Dih-ki, about 30 li from here, they entered a government school in the street, and carried off 19 boys and one teacher. They came over the wall of the temple where the school is held; and two other teachers managed to escape.

There has been quite a number of cases of smallpox among children this spring, but fortunately only mild cases as yet have been reported.

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NORTHERN CONFLICT AND KIANGSU

The Camps Spring to Attention: Robber Diversions: Are They Chang Tso-lin's Allies?

From Our Own Correspondent.

Haichow, N. Ku., May 12.

Newspaper reports and private telegrams having agreed that Wu Pei-fu has gained a decided victory in the north, the natural thing to expect would be a cessation of military activities in this region, but the very opposite has been the case and has raised in our minds the question of what it all might mean.

Six weeks ago there was unusual activity in the neighbouring camps and the natural supposition was that it was part of the great struggle west and north. Sweeping and radical changes were instituted, chief of which was the reduction of the "paper" camps to realities.

Nominally the Defence Commissioner, General Pei Pao-shan has under him 12 camps of a nominal strength of 500 men each, but these camps have never recruited to more than half this number, although they were fully officered.

Under a sweeping order from the Nanking Tuchun they were merged into six full camps. There was great discontent over this move as it automatically deprived half the officers of their jobs. Half were retained and the others had respectively to take the next rank lower or be discharged altogether. The smaller officers took the reduction in grade but several of the more important did not, one of them expressing his feelings on the matter by sending an army revolver bullet through his own abdomen. Incidentally he became a very interesting hospital case, for although Dr. Morgan succeeded in sewing up no less than eight intestinal perforations the case was apparently hopeless from the start. However, he made most remarkable progress towards recovery for several weeks, but about the time he was to be discharged took a turn for the worse and died.

After the reorganization had been effected nothing at all was done towards joining up with either side and the soldiers themselves believed that the changes had nothing to do with the present conflict in the north. But the present moment is marked by more military activity than any one here has ever seen.

The writer passed the main artillery camp yesterday, and horses were then being hurriedly hitched up to their guns. Later in the day barrows were being impressed everywhere and one of General Pei's lieutenants said that they had been ordered to rush soldiers to Hsuchowfu.

Rumours are abundant but the solid facts known to me are that there have been some very daring attacks by robber bands on villages less than 15 miles distant to the east and that too, right under the noses of other camps of soldiers who promptly gave battle. The audacity of the bandits was enough to warrant the fear that there might be a real military, or at least banditary, attack instigated by Chang Tso-lin. Had the latter been successful in his push down the T.P. Railway it can be readily seen that a few boat loads of bandits could have made so much trouble along the coast that none of these troops would have been free to leave their stations, and would have been unable to go to the defence of the railroad or the Grand Canal. If the authorities are correct in surmising that these robber attacks are part of the military campaigns, one of two things is evident: either these bandits embarked on their trip coincidentally with the movement of Chang Tso-lin's troops southward, or they are part of another campaign of which as yet we know nothing, the more probable of which is an effort of Chao Ti against Hsuchowfu.

KUANGSI NOTES

From Our Own Correspondent.

Lungchow, April 23.

We are always glad to welcome a new addition to the foreign community in Lungchow, and so we extend a hearty welcome to Mr. Conroy, the new tidewaiter of the Lungchow Customs Mr. Conroy arrived with the party escorting the mail and knew nothing of the trouble about Lungchow, excepting that he heard rifle firing along the way, to which he paid little attention. While we are welcoming Mr. Conroy we also must bid farewell to one of the oldest foreign residents, Mr. G. De Paolo, former tidewaiter, who is being transfered to a city in Yunnan.

To-day, Mr. George De Paolo and Rev. G. Sension are leaving for Tonkin. Mr. Paolo is going to his new appointment and Mr. Sension on a business trip. They are making the journey by water, travelling to the Border in a small sampan. The trip will require two days owing to the unrest, but no trouble is expected from the Kuangsi soldiers, who are holding the country through which they will pass.

THE WEATHER.

The weather is rather changeable, and on two days, (April 3 and 4) the thermometer registering 100 and 102 degrees, respectively in the shade. It is now threatening rain. At any moment we may expect a deluge, which will be welcome, both for its cooling effect and the power it has of raising the water in the river, which rise will allow the launches to come up from below bringing much that is needed within the city.

PEKING, May 12.—The Peking races are being held to-day. Some Tientsin jockeys and owners of ponies are present.—Reuter.

SZECHUAN'S MILITARY MOVEMENTS

Impressing the Wrong People: Epidemics and Famine

From Our Own Correspondent.

Mienchow, Sze., May 1.

I ventured a forecast in my last letter that the public library and reading room projected by our enlightened General here for the benefit of the people of this city and district, might be the prelude for a further levy of funds on the city. This forecast has now been realized.

A few days ago the gentry and leading men were called in for conference, when the General modestly asked for $55,000, the land tax for the 15th year of the Republic to be taken as bond for that amount. So the people are to pay the third land tax in six months.

During the last few days there has been considerable movement of troops. One brigade has moved off to Chêngtu and some outpost units have been called in. No one seems to know quite what is impending, though rumour is busy as usual. The movement has involved a general conscription of coolies.

Merchants, apprentices, but chiefly farm labourers and farmers in the country have been impressed into the service and that at a very busy season for agriculturalists. Wheat, barley and mustard waiting to be gathered in and the new young rice plants asking to be planted out. What a land! Taking advantage of this pre-occupation of the troops, a band of brigands raided, looted and partly burned down a prosperous market town 60 li from here two days ago.

Epidemics of typhus fever and diphtheria have made their appearance, and already there have been several deaths especially from diphtheria.

Reports still come in of distressful famine conditions in the hills. I am starting out in a day or two on an extended tour into some of these districts and shall be able to investigate at first hand. $1,000 from the Famine Fund has been granted for one district.

AN officer and two men received minor injuries on board H.M.S. Cairo through the accidental discharge of one of the guns on May 8. At the time the accident occurred, the Cairo was in Hongkong harbour, and certain tests were being carried out. There happened to be a blank charge in one of the guns at the time, and by some means or another it went off. The gun was pointing inwards, and Lieut. Graham of the Cairo, Mr. H. W. Sandford of the electrical department of the Naval Yard, and Chief Electrical Artificer Mallinson received the force of the discharge, which fortunately was partially broken by the fact that another gun stood in the way. Lieut. Graham's injuries consisted principally of burns, while Mr. Sandford was injured in one eye.

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THE GATEWAYS OF SZECHUAN

Better Prospects Round Chengtu than for Many Years: Notes on a Journey to Chungking

PIRATES IN THE GORGES STILL UNCHECKED

From Our Chengtu Correspondent.

The spring of 1922 has found Chêngtu more peaceful and apparently more prosperous than for some years past.

The spring crops of wheat, hemp, and tobacco were pronounced good, while vegetable matter abounded on the great plains. The outlying cities and towns were less molested by robbers, and the political situation was more healthful and steady than usual.

The business atmosphere was bracing. During the past few years, new arcades have been built up, adding hundreds of shops. During the disturbances many were closed, now a vacant shop is rare. These shops contain a large assortment of imported goods, bric-a-brac, woollen goods, serges, etc. cotton goods, plain and fancy, as well as native silks, and piece goods. No city on the upper river has such a splendid display of things foreign, as in addition to imported goods, there is a fine showing of native products after foreign patterns, especially in piece goods, leather goods, furniture, rugs and metals. It only needs a demand to bring into the market, every article that even foreigners would wish for, in every department of private life. Where in earlier years, foreign residents bound for Chêngtu felt it necessary to purchase everything, either in the homeland or Shanghai, and thus on their journey westward be troubled with one or two hundred packages, which luckily the steamers carried free as baggage to Ichang, now, if they land with their trunks, they are able to set up a home that is very comfortable, and find on the market fresh milk, sugar, flour, meats, nuts and a variety of vegetables, sufficient for healthy living.

The spirit of enterprise, that fills the Chêngtu merchants is evidenced by the fact that notwithstanding the tremendous handicap they are under in transporting goods from Shanghai—as freight rates if they use steamers from Ichang to Chungking, or robber rates if they use Chinese junks, yet they keep their agents in Shanghai and have a constant flow of goods westward.

EXACTIONS ON JUNKS.

The exactions made upon junks during their two to three months journey westward, by military leaders, by civil magistrates, by self-constituted authorities, brigands, etc.; the hold-ups, when for days or weeks 40 or 50 men must be fed, while waiting at some dangerous rapid, or for the dispersion of a band of ruffians in the gorges; the partial or total wreck of junks which occur with terrible frequency—all these would be sufficient to discourage the most enterprising. Yet these merchants continue to do business and apparently thrive. During the high water the current is swift and down river crafts can make 100 miles a day. Forty miles south of Chêngtu, the Fu river enters the Min, and 60 miles southward the Min enters the Tong and the Ya rivers. These combined make a wide, swift river from Kiating to Suifu. Kiating is considered at the present time as the head of steamer navigation, though, to date, only war vessels have made the ascent. Merchant steamers are planning to make regular trips. Kiating is very pleasantly situated and as the Tong and Ya rivers drain extensive territories, rich in mineral, timber, medicines, etc. and as they are the outlets for produce that crosses the high passes from Tachienlu and the farther west, and are navigable by strongly constructed bamboo rafts, Kiating should become an important commercial city, as well as an objective for tourists, as that most noted sacred mountain, with its white wax industry, Mount Omei, is within easy reach.

Apart from one or two rapids the Min river between Kiating and Suifu presents no serious obstruction to steamer navigation, and once the route is opened, will no doubt become popular for at least six or seven months in the year.

At Suifu the Min river joins the Yangtze, whose splendid volume of water flows eastward to Luchow and Chungking, past several important cities. Westward from Suifu on the Yangtze are rapids that may prohibit steamer navigation in that direction. Several boats specially built are able to tap the upper reaches of this great river and will in time bring eastward the vast mineral wealth that is hidden in the mountains, which even now, use the spring freshets, to scatter their yellow grains in the gravelly deposits of the middle Yangtze.

Between Chungking, Luchow and Suifu a distance of over 200 miles, small steamers are running quite regularly. The city of Luchow is an important salt centre, owing to its close proximity to Tszeliutsing. This city is now undergoing a marked transformation. General Yang proved himself a good soldier in the last struggle between the Yunnanese and Szechuanese. Today his ability as an administrator is becoming equally prominent. Twenty years ago a young official was given a free hand to clean up Chêngtu. The transformation made in a few years was marvellous. Unfortunately his cloak did not fall upon his successors in office and while in name Chêngtu is supposed to continue the good work, in practice results are yearly more discouraging.

A REFORMER INDEED.

Though General Yang, has had not been able to study methods from actual observation, yet the cloak of Taotai seems to fit him perfectly, and the visitor to Luchow is amazed at the possibilities of improvements in a Chinese city. First the main streets were widened by removing every obstacle that blocked them. Joss houses, projecting counters, etc., must all be clear of the street lines. Second, no dirt was to accumulate and, to arouse an interest in cleanliness, he led out the students, broom in hand, and gave the first demonstration. A tax of 40 cash a month on dogs soon cleared the city of a host of scurvy pests. Pigs were not allowed the freedom of the streets. Roads leading into the city were being built 20 to 30 feet wide. One of these ran straight through an ancient burial ground. The C. I. M. secured a very fine property about half a mile above the city, where they have a splendid mission plant underway. General Yang, in close proximity to this, is planning to build a model town. A railway is projected from Luchow to the salt wells, about 100 miles in length. Foreign engineers are now making a survey. His energies are not confined to external improvements. Schools are being reorganized, and great encouragement is given to all enterprises that help the people to improve.

Fortunately General Yang's genius for reform is not to be limited to one district. The city of Chungking was in great need of a cleansing. Situated on the side of a hill, with very inadequate drainage, and such drains as existed filled with great black rodents that made night hideous for pedestrians, with filth and dirt piled up in corners, with smells innumerable, a Hercules surely was needed. A Municipal Bureau was formed and General Yang was made Commissioner. He evidently has sufficient personality to get men to do things. The results are that within a short period great changes have taken place in the outward appearance of this great commercial metropolis of the West. Methods similar to those mentioned above have made the business streets seem twice as broad. Twenty cash for a dead rat is exterminating that pest. A wonderful programme of improvements within and without the city is announced. Great bunds are to be constructed. A motor-road between Chungking and Chêngtu is to be built. Aeroplanes are to be brought West. Millions of dollars are involved but that does not worry the optimistic general. In person he is very friendly, puts on no airs, is willing to do things himself. He attended the opening meeting of an Evangelistic Campaign held in the Chamber of Commerce. In his address he

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said he was not a member of the Christian Church, but was in sympathy with any movement that helped the people to reach a higher plane. He is looked upon as the Coming Man in west China, and even now his influence seems to be in the ascendancy of Liu Hsiang, the nominal Military Governor of the Province.

A MISSIONARY INJURED.

The river from Chêngtu to Chungking was peaceful. Inside districts, however, were troubled by local ruffians. Dr. Parry of the C.I.M. while visiting stations out from Chungking was met by a party which gave him a blow upon the breast, and then robbed him of his personal possessions. A mail caravan *en route* to Chêngtu was reported to be missing. The river from Chungking to Ichang was not so quiet. Robber activities in many districts were so much feared that the captain of the Chinese junk would not travel unless he could make a city for an anchorage.

At Wanhsien conditions were very unsteady. The soldiers who had been fighting Hupeh were returning to central and western Szechuan. About 20,000 were encamped in the city and suburbs, filling every eating house, tea-shops, temples and even the private houses. They were a rapacious ill-clad lot, and Wanhsien might well be nervous. These hordes have passed through the country, camping at the cities and towns *en route*, one army after another followed or preceded by independent robber bands.

Disappointed that they were not able to get their dainty fingers on the wealth of Ichang, they are a dangerous element to take inland where conditions are already beyond the control of the men in authority, hence adjoining districts are taking measures to prevent them entering their territory. Thus when one army under a General of evil repute started up the river in junks, he unexpectedly found himself face to face with Chongchow soldiers. The invading army was overpowered, and was forced to fall back on Wanhsien, having suffered the loss of many soldiers and several boatloads of arms and ammunition. It is not difficult to imagine the condition central Szechuan will be in, wherever these uncouth soldier robbers are led. Their return westward indicates that the peace between Szechuan and Hupeh is effective.

THE STEAMER'S OPPORTUNITY.

Between Wanhsien and Kueifu are a few bad rapids. Several junks that had recently been wrecked were lying at the foot of one of these. At Wushan-hsien, the head of the gorge of the same name, was the first official delay of the trip. Here the Magistrate refused to give the usual escort, as a band of fierce robbers was blocking the gorge. Already 20 mail boats and hundreds of big junks were held up. 300 hundred soldiers had been sent to reconnoitre. These robbers had attacked both cargo and mail boats, and not a few boatmen had been killed and wounded. For several days the trade of the Yangtze was held up, no boats daring to pass the dangerous points. After a delay of several days, junks were seen sailing up through the gorge. They reported that the robbers had withdrawn to fight the soldiers. That night at midnight a dash was made to get through the 40 miles gorge with the mailboats. The attempt was successful, and, once across the Hupeh border, the anxiety of the preceding days abated and Ichang was reached in safety.

One wonders at the short-sighted policy of permitting these robber bands to congregate, as these hold-ups only frighten the Chinese merchants and travellers, and drive them to discard the use of Chinese junks and boats. This year steamer navigation, Ichang to Chungking, began on March 31, and the prospects are that steamers will be so thick on the upper river that native junks will scarcely be able to navigate.

NORTH KIANGSU NOTES

Artificial Prices : No Famine Grain: Exporter's Tricks

From Our Own Correspondent.

Haichow, N. Ku., May 12.

The last 10 days have seen a most remarkable drop in the prices of corn and other grains. Food costs had risen to heights undreamed of even in the worst famine years and many efforts were made to induce the foreign members of the community to testify to the statement that a famine was raging. The latter were ready to testify to the exorbitant rates for grain, but could not be made to see that there was any actual famine resulting therefrom. It is true that the crops last year had been scanty, but they had brought fine prices and everybody agreed that it was the export of grain that had forced prices up. The foreigners took the ground that if there was enough grain to export, famine relief was not justified for there is bound to be a *quid pro quo*. Money was never more plentiful and labour is harder than ever to get. Members of the Presbyterian Mission have offered work to every teller of a hard-luck story and not one offer has been taken up!

We lately enjoyed two excellent rains at made-to-order intervals. Fear of high water caused the opening of the dams on the Salt Canal, which promptly ran dry and cut off the export of grain to the south. Finally there arrived several new cargoes of Manchurian corn and our "famine" collapsed utterly before these circumstances.

Your editorial a few days since called attention to the finding of "faithful friends of Wu Pei-fu" in the north. Yesterday I was chiding a prominent Chinese near-official on his own speedy change of heart and he remarked deliciously, "We have a saying, 'The victor is a king, the loser is a thief.'"

CHEFOO NOTES

Spring Gymkhana and Sports: The Internecine Warfare: Port Unaffected

From Our Own Correspondent.

Chefoo, May 13.

The Spring Gymkhana is to take place to-day and while the weather at present appears rather unpropitious there is every indication that it is going to turn out fine and clear. An excellent programme has been arranged and the organization behind it all is such as to guarantee that everything will pass off successfully. Launches are to be in readiness to transport contestants and spectators to the West beach while arrangements have been made for the Chefoo Club to provide luncheon, afternoon tea being provided by the ladies.

In addition to the Gymkhana the Hunter Corbett Academy, formerly the Temple Hill English School for Chinese, is holding its annual Spring Sports. There are something like 38 events to be worked off and the School authorities are wisely beginning sharp at 1.30 p.m. The sports at Temple Hill are a great attraction, not only to the foreign community, but to the Chinese. Large numbers of the latter usually attend to see the different events run off, and there is much enthusiasm evinced in them all. Frequently it has been found difficult to keep the Chinese back, but these last few years the school authorities have had the sports well organised and the arrangments for spectators have been excellent.

Wu Pei-fu's victory aroused little excitement in Chefoo. The Chinese—the great majority of them — were *pro*-Wu Pei-fu is their sympathies, and there is a feeling that now he has attained to the power that he has, the probability of Chefoo's being able to secure what it needs to make it the prosperous Port it ought to be, is less remote than it was. During the short period of hostilities, nothing occurred locally to denote that not so very many miles north internecine warfare was being waged between two of the country's war lords. The presence for a time of Chinese warships inside and outside the Breakwater was supposed to give an assurance to residents of Chefoo that in the event of untoward circumstances arising the peace of the place would be maintained, but it is doubtful whether the arrival and stay of the Chinese Navy made any difference to Chefoo.

TOKIO, May 9.—On Monday afternoon 25 workmen engaged in tunnelling at Onaichi-mura in Yamagushi Prefecture were entombed by the collapse of the half excavated tunnel. The workmen succeeded in getting out except one who is missing.—Reuter.

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YANGCHOW ORPHANS' HOME

The Opening Exercises: A Veteran Teacher: Chinese Calisthenics

From a Correspondent.

Yangchow, May 11.

An Orphans' Home was opened a year ago by Mr. Djing Ch'uen Te, a prominent Mohammedan of this city. The orphans number 115, varying in age from nine to 16 years. They receive daily instruction in the subjects taught in schools, including English and have regular training exercises in the well-kept grounds. It is hoped, when funds will permit, to buy looms and other equipment to teach the boys the cloth and shoe-making trades.

This morning special exercises were held to show what progress has been made in callisthenics. At 9.45 bugles and drums summoned the uniformed group, who marched in double file before the assembly room, forming two rows and standing at attention. Short talks were delivered by the superintendent and visitors, reminding the orphans of the importance of exercise in building up the individual and the nation. The instructor of physical training was held up as an example to indicate how bodily exercise goes along with health and a ripe old age. (The teacher, Mr. Hoe, is 80 years old though he appears but 50. He comes from Honan province, his interests here being in the salt Yamen. Chinese exercises have been his hobby since he was a young man. His spare time during the past few months has been occupied with teaching certain of the orphans some of the forms of training that China has had from ancient times.)

After the formalities of speech making, people gathered on the grounds, the exercises being conducted outside in a place shaded by a high tin roof. A dozen boys, repeating the numbers commanded by their leader, went through some complicated arm and body drills, performing these in perfect unison. Then individuals followed showing good form in swinging spears, long-bladed knives and other strange looking weapons copied from ancient models. The audience was stirred and the interest very keen when the old teacher himself appeared, performing difficult movements and describing circles, one moment sweeping the ground with both hands, the next moment raising the left, then the right foot into the air, striking each with the hand—all with the dexterity and vigour of a young man. A nephew of Mr. Djing, founder of the orphan's home, and a young man Mr. Mee, son of a prominent business man, also gave exhibitions and proved themselves apt pupils of their four score year old instructor. Then followed sets of fencing, the spear being matched in order against a staff, long-bladed knives and a sword with hooked end, said to be most difficult to handle. After some interesting pyramid formations, the programme was closed by the orphans with shouts of: "China, 1,000 years; Orphans, Home 1,000 years; Old Mr. Hoe 1,000 years!"

SOUTHERN ARMY AT SHIUCHOW

Evil Behaviour of Dr. Sun's Followers: Eyewitness's Account

Hongkong, May 15.

A Shameen correspondent in a letter to the morning papers describes "the appalling state of affairs which exists in the city which is at present the military headquarters of Dr. Sun Yat-sen's Northern Expedition."

The letter says: "The writer has been in Shiuchow for the last two days and has had ample opportunity of obtaining first-hand evidence. The whole city is closed from the business point of view, every business house and private dwelling being full of soldiers. Meat and vegetables are almost unobtainable. It is estimated that between 15,000 and 20,000 soldiers are billeted in the city the normal population of which is about 30,000. The soldiers are hardly recognizable as such, many of them being without arms and a large percentage with uniforms in rags.

"Little or no discipline exists while gambling and opium smoking are rife.

"Patrols of soldiers commandeer the people for coolie transport. It is really pitiable to see citizens of a peaceful country being beaten and bullied by nothing better than a horde of brigands. It seems extremely sad that the leaders of an expedition which is about to attempt the salvation of China should start by shutting their eyes to the fact that their own soldiers indulge freely in gambling, opium-smoking and every known vice."—Reuter.

Distressed Chinese Students in Tokio

Tokio, May 17.

The difficulties of providing funds for Chinese students in Tokio, many of whom are extremely distressed, apparently explain the absence from the Chinese Legation of the Chargé d'Affaires, Mr. Ma Ting-liang, and Secretaries Koo and Chang, whose present whereabouts are unknown.

Mr. Ma left Tokio with his wife and child on April 20, alleging that he was going to Hakone and elsewhere for a rest. He is at present reported to be at Mukden, from where he is unable to proceed to Peking owing to the military operations. Messrs. Chang and Koo similarly left a few days ago. The whereabouts of these gentlemen are officially admitted to be unknown.—Reuter.

ON BEHALF OF CHANG TSO-LIN

Attempt to Corrupt Soldiers Frustrated: A Party from Peking

From Our Own Correspondent.

Suchien, Ku., May 11.

There has been quite a stir of excitement in our little town. The night before last five men were arrested, and put in prison, from which they are not likely to come out till they come to be executed. Report has it that they are emissaries of Chang Tso-lin sent down here from Peking to incite the camp soldiers to revolt and throw in their lot with the War Lord. Fortunately, we have good officers, and the plot was frustrated. Two or three night ago six strangers arrived dressed in silks and satins, but instead of going to the inn—where they might have passed as strangers passing through the town—they went to stay with a man who sells pigs in one of the city streets. As everybody suspects everybody else to be "tufei" these days, it was whispered in the yamên that this man had guests. Some yamên persons were deputed to inquire, and the said gentleman—report has it—said that he had no guests. They took the liberty to search the premises, but found no guests. The neighbours insisted they were there; so the party again returned at dark and found three of the said visitors hiding in the little kitchen. Their confessions led to the arrest of other two yesterday, but the sixth member of the party is still at large. They are all young men, mostly under 30 years of age. One named T'sien was a member of a well-to-do local family. He was at school in Peking, was given the title of "Fukuan" and the promise of a higher position in future if he accomplished his task. They carried an official document from Chang Tso-lin. This young man's grandfather, a man of some standing, went to the yamên to intercede on behalf of the young man, but he was not even granted an audience. Meanwhile, our officials are awaiting word from Nanking.

Japanese Companies

Tokio, May 9.

Seventy-eight companies were newly established during April with a total capital of Y.43,000,000, according to returns published by the Industrial Bank of Japan. Compared with April 1921 this is a decrease of 148 companies and Y.53,000,000 capital. Twenty companies augmented their capital during April by Y.15,000,000, while the same number reduced their capital by Y.8,000,000; 38 companies were dissolved, involving a capital of Y.20,000,000.—Reuter.

TOKIO, May 11.—The infant son of Prince Yi has died in Seoul.—Reuter.

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CHAN PING-SANG THE UNDESIRABLE

Seamen's Union Leader Arrested in Hongkong

Hongkong, May 12.

Chan Ping-sang, the former President of the Seamen's Union, who was sentenced to 12 years' imprisonment at Canton for the murder of his wife, and was subsequently liberated by Dr. Sun Yat-sen, arrived in Hongkong from Canton this morning. He was immediately arrested and is being held in custody by the police.—Reuter.

Hongkong, May 15.

A large deputation of the Chinese Seamen's Union carrying bannerettes waited on the Secretary for Chinese Affairs this morning to petition for the release of Chan Ping-sang, former President of their Union, who was recently released by Dr. Sun Yat-sen after being convicted of the murder of his wife and who was arrested by the police on his arrival in Hongkong. It was ultimately decided to appoint eight representatives to confer with the Secretary for Chinese Affairs.—Reuter.

Banished from Hongkong

Hongkong, May 15.

The Hongkong authorities consider that Chan Ping-sang is an undesirable. as he has been convicted of murdering his wife, and he is being held in custody by the police pending an order for his banishment.

The "Canton Times" in an editorial article on Chan's arrest says: "If there is a wrong way of doing things the Hongkong authorities are bound to find it. The latest stupidity of Hongkong officialdom is the arrest and detention of the ex-President of the Seamen's Union. By Order-in-Council the Governor of Hongkong can have anyone deported from the colony without offering any explanation or justification. His power is absolute and indisputable. As Chan Ping-sang has been declared an undesirable, this Order-in-Council can be brought into play. However, the labourers are convinced that Chan Ping-sang is being persecuted because of his leadership of the seamen's strike. He is considered a martyr to British revenge and it is believed that if a protest is not made now, other officials and members of the Union will be subjected to similar treatment whenever the Hongkong authorities choose to act. This nullifies the agreement to which the Hongkong Government was a party and reopens the whole question of the status of unions at Hongkong."

Later.

Chan Ping-sang, ex-President of the Seamen's Union has been banished by order of the Hongkong Government.—Reuter.

Protest by Seamen's Union

Hongkong, May 18.

The Seamen's Union has written a letter to the Chairman of the Shipowners' Committee stating that the Union regarded Chan Ping-sang's arrest as a contravention of the agreement terminating the recent strike, and asking the shipowners to mediate with the Government in the matter.

On May 14 the Union of Commercial Associations of Kuangtung petitioned the Hongkong Government to release Chan Ping-sang, alleging that the Government had detained him for no crime, which was a breach of the conditions of settlement of the strike.

The Governor of Hongkong has written a letter to his Majesty's Consul-General at Canton, stating that the fact that Chan Ping-sang was an officer of the Seamen's Union was not connected with his banishment, which had been decided solely on the ground that he was a confessed murderer. The Government found it necessary in the interests of peace and good order to refuse the hospitality of the colony to criminals of this type, and regrets that it is unable to accede to the request of the Associated Chambers of Commerce that Chan Ping-sang should be allowed to remain here.

Ferry Men on Strike.

May 18.

Owing to the failure of their demand for increased wages, steamlaunch coxswains and crews here have intimated their intention to go on strike this evening.

The management of the Kowloon ferry service this afternoon announced that owing to the threatened strike of coxswains and engineers, the regular service will probably be suspended a few hours tomorrow morning.

Later.

Steamlaunch coxswains and engineers have struck.—Reuter.

Japan in Siberia

London, May 11.

In the House of Commons today, replying to Mr. George Barnes, Mr. Austen Chamberlain said that the Government understood that it was owing to the breakdown of the Dairen Conference that the Japanese Government had not been able up to the present to give effect to its declared intention to withdraw its troops from Siberia.—Reuter

Tokio, May 12.

The relief of the 11th Division of the Japanese Army in Siberia is still going on and it is expected that the staff of that division will be able to leave Siberia for home by the middle of June. The troops of the 8th Division are being hurried to Siberia at the present time and as the various contingents arrive a like number of the 11th Division are being despatched home.

Japanese fishermen are preparing for their annual trip to the fishing territories along the Maritime Province and Kamchatka coasts of Siberia. A Foreign Office official estimates the number of men who will engage in the industry this year at 15,000 persons and the amount of money derived from the industry at 30,000,000 yen.

The Navy Department has decided to send the light cruiser Niitaka and several special service boats to protect these fishermen.—Reuter.

BRITISH SINOLOGUE HONOURED

London Degree for the Rev. J. P. Bruce

News is to hand that the Rev. J. P. Bruce, M.A., of the English Baptist Mission, former President of the Shantung Christian University, has gained the London University Doctorate of Literature for a thesis on the philosophy of Chu Hsi, the great commentator on the Chinese Classics.

Dr. Bruce was almost the first, if not the first, to gain the London M. A. degree in Chinese. For 15 years, in such spare time as a strenuous teaching and administrative career has left him, Dr. Bruce has patiently pursued his investigations into the thought of Chu Hsi. Starting, as most Western readers do, with the idea that Chu Hsi was a clear-cut materialist and therefore mainly responsible for what is by many considered the non-theistic, materialistic trend of what may be termed the orthodox interpretation of the Classics, Dr. Bruce has, as the result of long first-hand study, come to admire Chu Hsi as an out-and-out idealist, whose basis of interpretation is essentially spiritual.

Messrs. Probsthain of London are shortly bringing out a work by Dr. Bruce in three volumes. Two of these volumes are taken up with Dr. Bruce's translation of and notes on certain works of the Chinese philosopher, the third volume is his estimate of Chu Hsi's philosophy. This third volume is practically the thesis for the doctorate. The few people in Peking and north China who have seen the work in manuscript can speak of its remarkable insight and freshness, as well as of the sustained, patient and scholarly investigation which characterizes it.

Dr. Bruce is one of the feeding sources of quite a number of people in this country who are teaching psychology, philosophy and theology in Mandarin, his proof-sheets being used, in their rough form, by teachers who cannot wait for the works to appear in their finished state. Dr. Bruce is to be congratulated on a very jealously guarded, seldom conferred, distinction.

TOKIO, May 11.—Japan has agreed to accept and recognize certificates from the American Bureau of Shipping regarding loadlines of American ships.—Reuter.

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TROUBLE AVERTED IN KIANGSU

What Chang Tso-lin's Defeat Meant: Soldiers and Looting: Salt Smuggling

From Our Own Correspondent.

Tsingkiangpu, Ku., May 10.

Conditions in this section have brightened considerably during the past two days. The soldiers had not been paid for two months and there was general unrest and talk of looting and all feel sure that had Chang Tso-lin been the victor in the north nothing could have prevented a repetition of the looting of 1911. During the past ten days there have been nightly complaints of robbers in the city and immediate surrounding country. Last week a number of soldiers broke into a small house near the canal and badly cut the only man they found in there. The woman broke a hole through the rear of the house and ran to the canal and called the salt soldiers on one of the guard boats. They came up and captured seven soldiers, one escaping. Ropes were secured and the men tied up. The next morning the local general was notified. He sent for the men and later word came back that these were good soldiers and that a mistake had been made. Later, it has been reported that the people living near have been arrested and the blame put on them, saying they were the real robbers and caught these soldiers to hide their own work. It is needless to say that local opinion has become solid against our military leader.

Three days ago, in conversation with some soldiers, the question of robbing and looting was brought up. One of them said: "Of course we will loot, if our salaries don't come: haven't we got to live? We will be perfectly justified." Fortunately, for the time being this seems to be staved off.

THE CROPS.

Splendid rains in the past two weeks have greatly improved the prospects for spring crops and grain in the north country dropped from 1900 to 1100 cash per *teo* due to the good rains. In some sections the wheat could not be planted at all last Autumn and in others it was planted too late, but if the existing crop can be harvested, a famine can be averted for the coming year, that is, with reasonable autumn crops.

Considerable excitement was caused here several weeks ago by the arrest of a salt merchant from Anhui on whose boat was found smuggled salt. This has been going things hard, resulting in the authorities for this district have been trying to break up the smuggling practice. The local officials have been more or less solidly behind the smugglers but the District Inspector in Panpu has been pushing things hard, resulting in the arrest of this man. He has been here for the past week conferring with the salt merchants and hoping to make more efficient arrangements. The disturbances reported some time ago were due to the tightening up of regulations. The Chinese seem to think that custom (long continued dishonesty) establishes the right to continue in that line and their righteous indignation is aroused when means are instituted to clean things up.

THE PREMIER'S TRIP TO GENOA

Mr. Ll. George's Anxiety for Results: Russia's Principal Need

From Our Own Correspondent.

London, April 6.

Mr. Lloyd George started for Genoa and the usual Downing Street circus has gone with him. These conferences are all very well, but they no longer possess the character of a few individuals meeting to discuss quickly and expeditiously urgent matters, but have developed into vast congregations of individuals who spend a large amount of money and a very considerable amount of time in often, I fear, doing very little. This is not the Prime Minister's fault, but nowadays, on true Oriental lines, every nation has to make "a good show," and the bigger the delegation, the more importance it seems to acquire. Hence we collect our armies of experts, we mobilize our Foreign Office typists, we give ornamental jobs to all and sundry, and then the great caravan gets on the way. It is said that the hotelkeepers at Genoa are hoping for a good time, and they may well do so. But curiously enough, the Italian Government is paying the bill, and I imagine that next year there will be a deficit in the Italian Budget.

THE VOICE OF PARLIAMENT.

On the eve of his departure, Mr. Lloyd George secured from the House of Commons a general vote of approval in favour of his policy at Genoa. This is based on what are known as the Cannes Resolutions, which agree to a quasi-recognition of the Bolshevist Government, provided that they, on their part, recognize all their pre-war debts and give a variety of guarantees for good economic and commercial behaviour in future. Mr. Lloyd George is never at his best in making a set speech, and in the House his address, which lasted two hours, was by no means one of his best. His majority, however, did not substantially fall, since only the Die-Hards voted against the Genoa Conference, when it came down to a straight expression of opinion. It is true that the Labour Party endeavoured to suggest a vote of non-confidence in the Government, but this was of course only done for window-dressing purposes, after the result at East Leicester, where their local champion secured such a very striking victory.

Not many of us expect much result from Genoa, since although the Russians may go there with all possible protestations of good intentions, it is not easy to see how, in view of the present economic situation in their country, they can hope to realize them. Russia is in such a state that she can pay no interest on any loan or any liability for years to come, and although we flatter ourselves that it may be possible to re-establish trade, it is difficult to see how this can be done when the potential customer has not a bean in the world. Indeed, the Petrograd correspondent of the "London Chamber of Commerce Journal" quite seriously indicated recently that the great need of Russia was printing machinery, since the presses could not turn out paper money fast enough, although they were working night and day and the greater part of the rolling stock of the country was engaged in distributing this output to all parts of the country.

THE ELECTION FAR OFF.

Anyway, the Conference will now be held, despite the prospect at one time that it would fall through, owing to America's abstention, and there is no doubt that the Prime Minister intends to achieve some practical result from it, since on this his reputation stands. If he could secure some really good European economic understanding, and then return to evolve a respectable Budget (now postponed until after Easter) he might conceivably think it worth while to go to the country. However, the date of the election is still far off and no one likes to prophesy even that it will be held this year. The House of Commons rises for the ten days' recess at Easter with the feeling that it deserves a holiday, but why on one knows, since it has done very little business except to pass some of the estimates and generally in minor matters make itself disagreeable to the Ministry as a whole.

The Depression in Japan

Tokio, May 10.

According to the Industrial Investigation Section of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, workmen who lost employment during April numbered 3,500, while five companies reduced their business and one company closed up.

In the number of unemployed, shipbuilding heads the list, with 72 per cent.,

Labour disputes numbered 23, involving 12,000 strikers. In the majority of these troubles, claims for increased wages were predominant. Among these strikers, mechanics head the list, followed by traffic and communications.—Reuter.

PEKING, May 13.—It is announced that the Government has decided to adopt the policy of throwing the accounts open to public inspection and also to advance a month's expenses to each Ministry forthwith.—Reuter.

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INSURANCE AGAINST UNEMPLOYMENT

Government Counting on 1,500,000 Workless for Another Year: Dr. Macnamara's Bill

From Our Labour Correspondent.

Manchester, Mar. 31.

Those optimistic people who believed that the long expected revival in trade was at hand were disagreeably surprised when Dr. Macnamara, the Minister of Labour, framed his extension of the Unemployment Insurance Act on the assumption that there would be between 1,500,000 and 2,000,000 workers unemployed until the end of June, 1923.

The bill provides for the payment of the same weekly grants as are now in operation, but instead of being continuous they are in future to be split up into periods of five weeks, with intervals of the same length without payment between. The benefits now being paid are 15/- for a man, 5/- for his dependent wife, and 1/- for each dependent child. The actual effect of the new system will be to halve these figures. The payment of them for the 15 months covered by the Extension Act is estimated to cost £61,500,000.

DEMORALIZATION OF UNEMPLOYMENT.

The Minister of Labour in presenting the bill for its second reading before Parliament, referred to the demoralizing effect that the long period of unemployment must necessarily be having on the victims, and called for the co-operation of the employers in minimizing this by quickly notifying the Labour Exchanges of vacancies that could be offered to applicants, and so enable the officials to weed out the work-shys from the workers. He said it was ridiculous to suppose that the small benefit would prevent a man with a dependent wife and children from seeking work, but the case was different with many young people who relied on their relatives for food and shelter, and he regretted that it was at present rarely possible to test their alleged inability to find work by offering them a vacancy. He advocated a stringent examination of their claims. In pursuance of this policy instructions have now been issued to all Labour Exchanges ordering the suspension of the payments of extra benefits to all single young men until their claims can be inquired into. This has caused a great outcry, for there are many instances in which a young unmarried man has to support a widowed mother and younger brothers and sisters.

The bill for the extension of benefits was unfavourably received by the Labour Party, and by some of the financial Die-hards of the Conservative party. Labour made political capital out of it as evidence of the Government's inability to achieve economic reconstruction, and blamed the Versailles Treaty as its cause. Mr. Austin Hopkinson (Ind., Moseley) complained that it prevented the competition of the man out of work against the man employed, and demanded that the full stigma of pauper relief should once more be used to humiliate people out of work and thus keep down the number of applicants. This bright idea would help the wastrels to survive and condemn those genuine cases worth helping to starvation.

OUR C3 POPULATION.

Sir Frederick Banbury said that the workers could not expect to get the short hours and wages current before the war. As these hours and wages are now generally recognized as being the cause of the C3 condition of that part of our conscript army drawn from industrial towns, it is to be hoped that if Sir Frederick has his way the authorities will arrange beforehand for fleets of ambulances to take the industrial conscripts to the front in the next war, for they will be needed.

A small ad. inserted in a newspaper last week by an able-bodied ex-serviceman asked for a situation at £1 per week, to do anything. There were many more asking for 25/-. As £1 to-day has only the purchasing power of 12/- before the war, it is easy to see from this how desperate some poor fellows are becoming. The majority of the jobs advertised are for door-to-door canvassers. The people who insert them depend for their returns on the fact that the relations and friends of a man out of work will often buy rubbish from him that they do not want in their desire to give him a lift. No ordinary man can earn as much by canvassing as he can get in unemployment benefit, small as that is, and most of those who do it draw the benefit in addition. To these and to all those who have managed to carry on without applying to the Guardians the extension of insurance benefit will come as a great boon.

ELECTIONEERING SUGGESTIONS.

It was expected in many quarters that the period of benefit would not be extended and that the Government would abandon the unemployed to starvation or the bitter necessity of offering their labour to the employers at such a reduced rate as would fetch wages down to their pre-war figure. The false prophets who prophesied this now allege that the extension is a clever vote catching device. They point out that the exorbitant relief paid by some towns with a Labour majority on the Council frightened the ratepayers into voting anti-Labour at the last municipal elections, and say that the Coalition will go as far as the public will stand in supporting the unemployed, and then when the general election comes either force Labour to adopt a more extravagant policy still or lose the votes of the workless. If Labour promises more, the taxpayers will vote against them at the general election, as the ratepayers did at the municipal contests.

A HANKOW WEDDING

Fisher—McDonald

One of the most notable wedding ceremonies celebrated in Hankow for some years past was solemnized in St. Joseph's Cathedral yesterday, (says the "Central China Port" of May 11) when, following upon the civil formalities performed at the British Consulate-General by Mr. H. Goffe, C.M.G., Mr. Thomas James Fisher, the popular taipan of the local offices of Messrs. Butterfield & Swire, was married to Miss Margaret Mary McDonald, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John McDonald of Cape Town and niece to Mrs. H. G. C. Bailey.

The service in the Cathedral, which had been very charmingly decorated for the occasion with white flowers, was conducted by the Rev. Fathers Connaugton and Gilgan. Notwithstanding the very considerable size of the building it was almost filled by the very large attendance of members of the community of all nations, quite a large number of Chinese also being present.

Punctually on the stroke of three, the bride appeared on the arm of her uncle, Mr. Bailey, and walked slowly down the aisle. Miss McDonald looked charming in a gown of ivory georgette, made very simply with pleated panels and wide sleeves richly embroidered with pearls and silver thread and completed with a pearl girdle. Her veil, which was very long and served as a train, was held to her head with a silver bandeau and supported by her attendants, Miss Christine Keed and Master John Fowler, both of whom were charmingly attired in yellow.

The bridegroom was ably supported by Mr. W. S. Dupree as best man.

There was a very pretty setting at the door of the Cathedral when the happy couple had rose leaves sprinkled on their path by Miss Diana Charleton, Miss Jenifer Skinner and Miss Betty Beddow, who, attired in white, acted as flower girls. The bridal party and guests then adjourned to the Consulate grounds, where by the kindness of Mr. and Mrs. Goffe a reception took place, the our taking the couple being daintily decorated with white streamers and flowers and attached to the back with, unknown to them, the placard "spliced," a riding boot and a slipper. The usual toasts were honoured with enthusiasm and felicitations and congratulatory speeches were made and acknowledged.

The bride and bridegroom were the recipients of numerous and very beautiful presents which were on view. These included from the bride to the bridegroom a set of silver hairbrushes and from the bridegroom to the bride a diamond and platinum bar brooch.

AN eight-storey building is to be erected for the P. & O. S. N. Co. at Hongkong, the estimated cost being seven lakhs.

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SCOTTISH LETTERS

Trend of Golf: The Late Lady Hope: New Mail Steamer for Japan: The Ubiquitous Scot: Lady Townley's Reminiscences: Tussle for the Calcutta Cup

From Our Own Correspondent.

Edinburgh, Mar. 22.

One is in doubt whether to welcome or lament the change that has taken place in the game of golf, as in most other games, within recent years. Lord Anderson called attention to this at the dinner of the Edinburgh Burgess Golfing Society, pointing out that modern golf is a strenuous game, and their leading professionals, such as George Duncan, were training like professional boxers. For this state of affairs the Americans, and to a lesser degree Englishmen are to blame. In former days, the real exponents of the game, the golfers of Scotland, played it as it should be played,—namely, as a match game. Then it was a pastime; now it is fast becoming a vocation. So far, however, the great army of Scottish amateur golfers "go round" for love of the game and for the benefit of its recreative properties.

The question arises whether the recreative value of the sport is not diminished or destroyed by this change to strenuous conditions? Is it good for the golfer who plays only for health and mental distraction to have his nervous system subjected to such a strain?

Every one must answer the question for himself. There are players who find no interest whatever in anything but a game pushed to the utmost competitive extreme. Others only find enjoyment in the old-fashioned conditions. Let each enjoy the game his own way. Controversy will not alter matters one whit, or retard the modern movement. The game and the players in time will find their own level.

MACHINE-MADE SPORTSMEN.

Even the strenuous professionalism of golf and other sports is to be preferred to the mechanical efficiency which inventive Americans have succeeded in introducing. When you have automatic bowling machines in cricket, bed-room appliances for golfers, mechanical servers for lawn tennis, or a sliding seat on the lawn for practising sculling, you may gain some plausible skill in these sports, but you are bound to lose most, if not all of the peculiar pleasure obtained by playing them.

THE LATE LADY HOPE.

Lady Hope, whose death at an advanced age is announced, was a daughter of General Sir Arthur Cotton of Woodcot, Dorking, Surrey, and the second wife of Admiral Sir James Hope of Carriden.

As Commander-in-Chief in China, the Admiral brought about the capture of Peking. He was wounded, and died at Carriden House in 1881, his grave in the old churchyard adjoining being mounted with a cable from one of his old ships. It was in Bo'ness that Lady Hope began her life-long temperance and religious activities, and one of her benefactions is a large and handsome building in North Street, Bo'ness, in which she was wont to carry on her good work among sailors and dock workers in the port. She was a born organizer, an eloquent speaker and preacher, and a generous giver to all good causes.

GOLDEN WEDDING.

At 6 Buckingham Street, Hillhead, Glasgow, on March 19, 1872, by the Rev. John Barclay, of St. George's Church, George Anderson Munro, Shanghai, China, third son of the late George Munro, S.S.C., 54 Albany Street, Edinburgh, to Agnes, eldest daughter of the late George Webster Snodgrass, manager of the North British and Mercantile Insurance Co., Ld., Glasgow.—Present address, Brownsville, Blairgowrie, Perthshire.

OBITUARY.

The obituary of the week contains the name of William Snell Orr, late of Amoy, China, son of the late R. D. Orr, banker, Helensburgh. Death took place at Weybridge, Surrey, on March 20.

NEW MAIL STEAMER FOR JAPAN.

Messrs. William Denny and Brothers, Dumbarton, have aunched the twin-screw steamer Nagasaki Maru, which is the first of two they are building for the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, Tokio, for the mail service betwcen Nagasaki and Shanghai. The vessel is 395ft. in length, 54ft. in breadth, 32ft. in depth to awning deck, and of 5500 tons gross register. She will have accommodation for 150 first-class and 200 third-class passengers. The propelling machinery consists of Parsons turbines designed to give a service speed of 18½ knots.

The naming ceremony was performed by Mrs. Ohtani, wife of the London manager of the owners' firm. Representatives of the owners present were Mr. Ohtani, Captain Ikawa, who will command the ship, and Mr. Mizukama, chief engineer. In the absence of Colonel J. M. Denny, C.B., Mr. Maurice E. Denny, vice-chairman of the builders' company, presided at the subsequent luncheon. The two vessels are being constructed under the superintendence of Messrs. A. R. Brown, Macfarlane and Company, the Glasgow representatives of the owners.

NEW BOOK BY LADY SUSAN TOWNLEY.

Next month will see the publication of Lady Susan Townley's "Indiscretions of Lady Susan." Lady Susan's husband was at one time Secretary of Legation at Peking, and she wrote not only of China in general, but of her own experiences of the Court and the Empress in "My Chinese Note-Book," which showed considerable graphic power.

PRESTWICK AND AN INTERNATIONAL.

What is to be the curtain raiser at the Prestwick Championship meeting is not quite certain. Whether there is another international with America or not, there seems a likelihood of a revival of the Scotland v. England event. It was practically arranged for Hoylake, but gave way to the bigger affair with America. Some years before the last match it was a half-hearted affair, and yet the absence of the match is regretted. Caps in the football world are highly prized, and blues in other sports, and men who have played themselves into prominence in golf should surely not be deprived of the glamour that goes along with playing for one's country. On its merits, it is an event well worth reviving; and, should there be another encounter with America, it would serve the very useful purpose of disclosing current form, and thus assist the selectors in their task. Last year such a trial match would have given us a better team, for men were picked who, as subsequent play in the Championship proved, were not worthy of the place, while others, like Willie Hunter, were not considered good enough.

The club smoke-rooms are busy picking out teams. The Amateur Champion naturally heads most of the lists, and other favourites include J. L. C. Jenkins, Gordon Simpson, Alexander Armour, W. B. Torrance and his brother, T. A. of Sandy Lodge, Harry Braid, Robert Harris. G. C. Manford, Lord Charles Hope, and W. A. Murray of Romford. Of the veterans, Edward Blackwell is a popular choice, in respect of his plucky fighting at Hoylake, when he went down to the ultimate winner.

THE UBIQUITOUS SCOT.

Where in all this world can we light on a spot that has not a Scots representative? writes "W.H.S." in the "Glasgow Herald." I put that question to an old far-sailed skipper closely associated with the Clyde. "I have found him in every hole and corner," he answered, "as large as life and twice as natural, his characteristics well developed, and his love for the old country strong and true. A phrase in the "mither tongue" or a lilt o' a hame sang was enough to "bring it all back again." I am convinced that be an exile ever so old, ever so long away in torrid or frigid zone, Scotland lies always next his heart, as warm as new flannel."

IN THE SOUTH SEAS.

"Once," said the skipper, "when I was a youngster, I was in a ship which lay becalmed in the Southern Seas. Through our glasses we could see a thin column of smoke rise into the still air, and we knew that there lay an uncharted island.

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A boat was sent ashore, and when we came within range of the islet, we saw a man running towards the beach, and you may guess of our surprise when we heard him shout, "Dinna come in here, but gang roon by the point!" The boat's crew, mostly Scotsmen, were taken aback, but went round by the point, and landed to receive a warm Scots welcome. In broad north country Doric he told his story. Like Robinson Crusoe he had actually been washed ashore from the wreck of a vessel on the breast of a great wave."

"The natives had pity on him; the chief had taken him to his dusky bosom. 'Ye'll see the black crip o' ebony himsel,' he said 'the native quarter is about a mile inland.' He led us to the chief's headquarters, and the coal black magnate received us with regal dignity. His speech of welcome was interpreted by his Scots foundling, and then the island larder was laid at our feet. Naturally we assumed that our exiled fellow countryman would hail with delight the opportunity of quitting the island; but not a bit of it; he refused to budge. 'I'm as happy as a sandboy here,' he said; 'I like hame a' richt, but noo I hae mair friends among the blacks than among the whites. An' besides, I'm somebody here, and wad be naebody yonder.'

"Many a time, concluded the skipper, I have wondered if he still lives in his home in the South Seas."

An Old Tale in a New Setting.

Here is an actual incident which befel a friend of mine, an engineering expert, whose surname was Thomas. He was requested to go to Constantinople as consultant in connexion with the installation of new plant. Accompanied by an interpreter he made his way to the headquarters of the company, and was met by the manager in full Turkish rig-out. The cross-play of talk went on for some time through the medium of the interpreter; then the Scots specialist noticed the manager slip a coin into the interpreter's hand. When the interpreter left the room, the Turk laid his hand on the Scot's shoulder and said, with a twinkle in his eye, —"It may surprise ye, Tammas, but I'm as Scots as a peat; and noo that you bletherin' chiel's awa' we're free to hae a crack by oorsels!"

The Parable of the Virgins.

In our Scottish cities the "sermon tasters" whose delight it was to sample the sermons of various ministers are a disappearing type, yet I fancy many people would turn out of a Sunday to listen to a certain Highland divine if he comes South to the Lowlands. He was preaching recently on the parable of the wise and foolish virgins, and rose to a great height of fervour, in the course of which he exclaimed,—"Ah, my young men I ask you whether would you rather be in the light and the brightness wi' the five wise virgins, or oot in the dark wi' the five foolish wans?"

Professor Gregory's Expedition to China: The People's Income: Sir T. Sutherland's Will

Mar. 29.

An expedition which will penetrate the secluded mountain fastnesses of Western China will start next Friday with the departure from Liverpool of Professor John Walter Gregory, F.R.S., D.Sc., Professor of Geology in the University of Glasgow. In this adventurous quest, the Professor, who has already made a reputation as an explorer, will be accompanied by his son, Mr. Christopher John Gregory, who makes his first effort as an explorer.

The party leaves Liverpool on the liner Herefordshire, bound for Rangoon. Proceeding up the Irrawady (as already announced in your columns) the point of departure will be Bhamo, and from thence the expedition will go by the Ambassador's Road to Têngyueh, which is the first important town in southwest China. All the country between Têngyueh and Batang, a town on the main Chinese road to Lhasa, will be closely investigated for geological and scientific data. During the march between these two centres—the belt of country traversed by the three parallel rivers, the Yangtze, Mekong, and Salwin—it is hoped to ascertain valuable scientific facts which will greatly enhance existing geological knowledge. Altogether, the march will extend to over 1,000 miles.

Assistance is being lent by the British Consul at Têngyueh, who is engaging a Chinese staff; while the Chinese Government will provide an escort to protect the party from natural dangers when penetrating the valleys, some of which are from 3,000 to 4,000 feet deep. The trade routes along these valleys are sometimes rendered impassable by landslides. There is also the possibility of attack by brigands.

The main problem which Professor Gregory hopes to unravel is whether there are any indications of an eastward continuance of the Himalayan range. In localities which the explorers will endeavour to penetrate there is believed to be evidence which will determine the relation of the Himalayas and the mountain system of southeast Asia. Some of the mountains are said to be about 25,000 feet high, and by ascending to within 5,000 feet of their snow-clad tops the Professor hopes to be able to measure accurately their altitude. Up to the present the heights given on the maps are merely conjectural.

Specimens of animals and plants will be collected, and it is expected that they will throw some light on former changes in the climate of the country. These specimens will be presented to the Natural History Museum, South Kensington, and to the Calcutta Museum.

Part of the expense of the expedition will be defrayed by the Percy Sladen Trust, named after an eminent biologist, whose fortune was bequeathed by his wife for the assistance of such expeditions.

Professor Gregory, who has accompanied expeditions to British East Africa, Spitzbergen, and Central Australia, hopes to return in October.

Father of Scottish Missions.

The death has taken place at Dunira, Corstorphine, of the Rev. John Anderson, in his 101st year. "Father" of the Church of Scotland, he was also the oldest Scottish missionary, probably the oldest British missionary. After being educated at Edinburgh University, he spent ten of the best years of his life in Calcutta. After the Disruption, the Church of Scotland's institution at Calcutta was left practically without any staff, every missionary with one exception, Miss Savile, having gone over to the new Free Church. In 1845 Dr. Ogilvie was in charge, and in the following year he was joined by Mr. Anderson, and after some strenuous work the task of reconstruction was successfully accomplished. A breakdown in his wife's health forced Mr. Anderson to return to Scotland, where he was subsequently minister of the West Parish of Dalkeith and then of Coulter in Lanarkshire.

Andrew Kirkcaldy on Training Beginners.

Andrew Kirkcaldy, the Royal and Ancient professional, than whom there is no better known figure in golf, has been giving his views in regard to the training of beginners in the great game. No believer in hustling, Andra's method may be too slow for the man who desires to become a Vardon all at once; but his system, he contends, never fails in the long run to bring about the correct result. "The man who has never previously handled a club," he declares, "should never be asked right away to keep his eye on the wee white ba' and to try to hit it. See that he has the right club, of proper weight and length, and let him go out on the course—or the back green for that matter—every day for a week, clipping the daisies, learning how to swing properly, and solving the secret of the stance." Andra is particularly strong on the stance.

Andra says he will be competing in the Open Championship this year, but is emphatic in his refusal to predict any likely result. "I tried the prophesying business once; to oblige a newspaper man I mentioned seven players for the Amateur Championship, and not one of them made a show. But never again." As for professional talent in Scotland, he thinks it as strong as ever, and would assuredly reveal itself if only the men got a little more encouragement.

Income of the People.

I have recently been privileged to see some semi-official calculations designed to answer the question—What has been the total income during the current financial year of the people of Great Britain? That is, the aggregate of all incomes, of rich and poor, from

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rents, investments, trade, professions, wages, and so on. The answer is some 4,500 millions, or about £100 a head. We have paid in taxes—apart from Post Office receipts, sales of stores, and things of that sort—some 900 millions, one-fifth on the average of our incomes. The rich have paid much more, the poor much less, unless they have drank excessively of whiskey, with a duty upon it of 8s. 5½d. a bottle. It must always be borne in mind that inflation and high taxation add to the apparent income of the people.

The corresponding estimates before the war were:—Total income of the people, 2,500 millions; taxes 200 millions. We paid then about one-twelfth of our incomes in taxes as against one-fifth now. Before the war we had left in our own pockets, all of us taken together, 2,300 millions a year. During the past twelve months, after paying taxes, we have left to spend 3,600 millions. We have had actually more money left, but it has not gone so far as it did as in those happy days of cheap living and cheap amusements before the war. High taxation is not by a very long way such a burden on trades and individuals as it is usually represented to be. Unless money from taxes is spent out of the country, it very rapidly goes back into the pockets of the people—though not necessarily the same people who paid it to the tax-collector.

SIR THOMAS SUTHERLAND'S WILL.

Property in his own disposition of the gross value of £723,000, with nett personalty £721,000, has been left by Sir Thomas Sutherland, late chairman and managing director of the P. & O.S.N.C., chairman of the London Committee and the senior vice-president of the Suez Canal Company. Sir Thomas, who died on January 1 last, aged 88 years, was Liberal member for Greenock 1884-86 and Unionist member 1886-90. The testator leaves to his daughter, Helen Sutherland, £40,000, and she is "otherwise amply provided for." He leaves £10,000 to his sister, Margaret Jane Sutherland, and £10,000 to his niece, Irene Whiting.

There are a number of legacies, the principal one being of £10,000 and one-half of the proceeds of the sale of Buckingham Gate, his household effects, motor cars, and so on, to Marjory Sinclair M'Kay, "who has been acting as my private secretary for many months, and I give this sum to her in order to secure her independence and freedom from ordinary work." Miss M'Kay, who, like Sir Thomas, was born in Aberdeen, lives at 36 Grosvenor Place in that city. She acted as nurse to Lady Sutherland and afterwards as secretary to Sir Thomas. It is estimated that Miss M'Kay will receive about £50,000. The residue of Sir Thomas's estate is left to King Edward's Hospital Fund, London.

POLITICAL SIDELIGHTS.

I have just run across a political enthusiast who was in Inverness-shire during the election, devoting most of his attention to Skye. It was his first visit to the island, and he says he can imagine no place so forbidding in the winter months. But, as I told him, that opinion was probably influenced by the fact that a five days' sacramental fast with three sermons a day was in progress.

In the Lowlands we are already preparing for the General Election. An Independent Liberal candidate is taking time by the forelock and is already booking motor cars for use on the polling day. He approached an old friend, made the usual request, and got the reply, "But I'm a Coalition man, and I'm not giving you my vote." "I wasn't asking you for your vote," said the candidate; "I was asking for the use of your car." "Oh, well—r-r-r—if that's the way of it," was the drawling response, "I suppose ye can have my car—for friendship's sake."

A "PUNCH" MAN ON THE SCOTS.

Mr. Thomas Jay, one of the staff of "Punch," has been firing off a number of epigrams about the Scots and Scotland at a Rotary Club lunch. Here are some "swatches."

Golf originated in Scotland, and that probably accounts for so many Scotsmen escaping to England.

Scotsmen are never in danger of being overcrowded at home while there is room in England.

Some credit Scotsmen with introducing the haggis. That isn't a credit. It is a debit.

Bagpipes are all right if people would only let them alone.

THE PRINCE'S VISIT TO MANILA

An Unfortunate Polo Accident

Manila, May 13.

The Prince of Wales was struck by the ball while playing polo here to-day, sustaining an inch and a half gash over the right eyebrow, which necessitated two stitches. The wound is not considered serious, but His Royal Highness was not able to attend the Governor-General's dinner to-night.

May 14.

The Prince of Wales this morning landed from the Renown to carry out the pre-arranged programme at Manila. Save for a rather conspicuous black eye, His Royal Highness appeared to be none the worse for his mishap whilst playing polo yesterday. The Prince received a great reception on stepping ashore, his pluck in wanting to continue the game after his brow had been cut by the ball strongly appealing to the Filipinos.

His Royal Highness visited Fort Mckinley, afterwards lunching with General Wright, Commandant of the troops. This afternoon, the Prince spent a short time at a garden party at the Manila Club given by the British community.—Reuter.

Manila, May 15.

The Prince of Wales landed this morning to carry out his programme for the day which consisted of a visit to the Cavite Naval Station and luncheon with the Senior officer. His Royal Highness visited the polo ground and watched a game but did not play himself, less on account of his bruised eyebrow, which is rapidly healing, than owing to the excessive heat.

In the evening the Renown sailed for Labuan where she is due on Wednesday morning.—Reuter.

VISIT TO NORTH BORNEO.

Labuan, May 17.

The Renown arrived at Labuan at noon to-day. After lunch the Prince of Wales landed for tennis at the Residency and then went bathing.

The Prince's eyebrow is quite healed and these is scarcely any trace of the accident.

Europeans at Labuan number only 17.

To-morrow His Royal Highness goes to Jesselton in the cruiser Cairo and on the next day to Brunei. No formal programme has been arranged. On Friday evening, the Prince leaves for Penang.—Reuter.

HONGKONG'S CLUB LUSITANO

The Opening Ceremony

Hongkong, May 13.

In the presence of the Governor of Hongkong and of the leading representatives of the British, foreign and Portuguese communities, the new Club Lusitano building, costing $250,000, was inaugurated to-day by the Governor of Macao.

Felicitous speeches were exchanged between the two Governors, in the course of which the Governor of Macao referred to the relations between Macao and Hongkong as "not only good, but of true friendship."

Sir Edward Stubbs, replying, testified to the good relations between the Portuguese community of Hongkong and the Government. Alluding to the relations and close friendship existing during the last few years with the Governor of Macao, His Excellency said: "I value those relations and friendship more than I can express at the moment."

A ball is being held this evening.

May 14.

The ball at the new Club Lusitano last night was largely attended, the guests including the Governors of Hongkong and Macao.—Reuter.

Mr. Beaumont's Bankruptcy

Hongkong, May 15.

With reference to the criminal proceedings in the case of Mr. E. A. Beaumont's bankruptcy, the Attorney-General has decided to file no indictment against him.—Reuted.

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PARIS LETTERS

M. Philippe Berthelot and the Banque Industrielle: France and the 1924 Olympic Games:

From Our Own Correspondent.

Paris, Mar. 17.

"What a misfortune to have a brother!" might be the exclamation of M. Philippe Berthelot, the once powerful official who for years controlled the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Disciplinary Council, summoned to consider his attitude in connexion with the Banque Industrielle de Chine, of which his brother was chairman, was unable to acquit him of blame, and M. Poincaré sentenced him to ten years' suspension. As he is 56 years old, this sentence means that he cannot be given employment as an ambassador, which is his rank in the diplomatic service, until he has nearly reached the age of retirement. His career is thus to all intents and purposes finished. Four degrees of punishment are provided by the regulations for diplomatic officials convicted of malpractices. They may either be reprimanded, suspended until it pleases the Minister to reinstate them (in which case the suspension automatically comes to an end after five years), suspended for a definite period, or dismissed. As M. Berthelot is suspended for twice the period which would have been involved by merely indefinite suspension, one must conclude that his offence was looked upon as serious.

He has always maintained that in sending out instructions to the representatives of the Quai d'Orsay in China and elsewhere he acted within the scope of his general authority as Chief Secretary of the Ministry, and that in attempting to support the Banque Industrielle and save it from disaster he was acting in the general interests of French credit throughout the Far East; but would he have taken such action had not his family been so directly interested in the bank? That is the question which occurs to the ordinary mind, and the disciplinary council seems to have been unable to answer it in such a manner as to acquit their colleague of blame.

M. Berthelot's Experience Lost.

Whether this blame is deserved is not by any means certain. The majority of the present Government is made up of those who were M. Briand's colleagues in the previous Cabinet. They shared the responsibility for the acts laid at the door of M. Berthelot, and now, as members of another administration, they join in condemning him. It is difficult to avoid the conclusion that he has been made a scapegoat. He has been sacrificed on the altar of diplomatic necessity *pour encourager les autres*. Whether it will encourage initiative in high officials, or any officials, is another matter.

Whatever may have been his failings, M. Berthelot was not afraid of responsibility. While ministers came and went, he remained in control of foreign affairs. During the last few days of July, 1914, when President Poincaré and M. Viviani, then Minister of Foreign Affairs, were at sea, on their way back from Russia, M. Berthelot was practically in control of France's foreign policy and was the only person able to give alarmed ambassadors and ministers any idea of what France would do. During the war and up to a few months ago, he constantly took part in the Allies' conferences, and there can scarcely be anyone better acquainted with the long series of negotiations before and after the framing of the Treaty of Versailles. All his fund of knowledge and experience is now set aside as unavailable in the national service.

The 1924 Olympic.

When, with the prestige of victory still full upon her, France obtained the privilege of organizing the Olympic Games in 1924, very few people could have foreseen the difficulties to be encountered. It was taken for granted that a great city such as Paris could soon provide a suitable site for the great international athletic contests. For ten months the French Olympic Committee has been trying to secure this site, but, so far, without success, because the two bodies chiefly concerned, the Paris Municipal Council and the French Olympic Committee, have failed to "hit it off." The Municipal Council favoured the Stade Pershing, at Joinville-le-Pont, a large recreation ground laid out by the American Army and subsequently handed over to the city. The Stade Pershing was preferred by the city authorities on the ground of economy, and possibly because the east, or Joinville, side of the city brought influence to bear.

The Venue.

The experts of the Committee, however, objected to the Stade Pershing from the first, because of its inadequate size, its distance from Paris and the lack of sufficient transport. They preferred a piece of ground called the Parc des Princes, just outside the western boundary of the city. It was large enough for the purpose and, not being already laid out as a recreation ground, it could be arranged in the manner most suitable to the Games and subsequently to the purposes of a permanent stadium. Unfortunately the experts expressed their preference too freely, and gave the Council the impression that they were issuing an ultimatum and threatening not to organize the Games at all unless they could have their own way and the ground of their choice. The Council resented this and decided to offer only the Stade Pershing and a subsidy of a million francs, just one-tenth of the amount on which the Olympic Committee had been counting.

President in Despair.

This decision caused a great stir, and Comte Clary, the president of the Committee, announced in despair that there was nothing for it but to give up the Games and let some other country organize them. The Government was appealed to, and emphatically expressed the opinion that France must keep the Games at all costs. Having sufficiently asserted its independence, the Municipal Council is now being asked to make some other proposal. The question of the Parc des Princes is further complicated by the existence of a sort of option in favour of the Ministry of Agriculture, which wants the ground for an agricultural exhibition. There is another possible site in the Bois de Vincennes, near the Porte Dorée. The suburban town of Colombes, which has a good sized stadium, talks of raising a municipal loan if it can get the Games, and La Courneuve, near St. Denis, is also being put forward, regardless of such objections as hideous surroundings and entirely inadequate transport. Under-Secretaries of State, members of Parliament, municipal councillors, and athletic experts are all talking vigorously, some trying to smooth down the ruffled feathers of the councillors while others accuse the poor fellows of parochialism, failing to recognise the magnitude of the question, and so on. Meanwhile the point of first importance, the choice of a ground, remains undecided, and time is running short. Unless the various bodies concerned can soon sink their differences and decide where the Games are to be held, it will be too late to begin the work with any chance of completing it in proper time. So many months have already been lost that, even assuming a suitable site to be obtained, the committee will be considerably handicapped, but it is largely their own fault. It is to be hoped that their organizing powers will prove superior to their diplomacy.

Electing the "Queen of Queens:" Unseasonable Fetes: An Interesting Experiment

Mar. 24.

Old customs die hard, and Paris has reverted to the practice of celebrating not only Shrove Tuesday but the middle of Lent. Neither of these opportunities for frivolity comes at a suitable season for outdoor doings, and while there is some approach to an excuse for a final outburst on the eve of 40 days supposed to be marked by self-mortification, it is not easy to see why affairs in a great city should be upset for a day simply because we are half-way through this annual period. This week's experiences have strengthened the feeling that, if we cannot do without processions and confetti-throwing, it would be much more sensible to reserve these delights to a more agreeable time of year.

The day before the Mid-Lent fêtes was about the worst, so far as weather was concerned, of the whole winter. All day there was a steady fall of half-melted snow, which as it came near the ground, was caught by the wind and driven

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almost horizontally. Throughout the ball which was given in the evening, the committee and all concerned in the fêtes of the morrow were harassed by anxiety. Next morning the snow had ceased but the sky was overcast and the wind was bitterly cold.

Up to the last moment there was a great conflict of opinion as to whether the procession should take place or be abandoned. Finally, only half an hour before the advertised time of starting the procession, it was decided not to disappoint the public, and the programme was carried out. The procession, however, was deprived of what is generally its prettiest feature—the "Queen of Queens" riding in state, with her "maids of honour" on a carnival car of elaborate design.

It was felt that to ask young women to sit for hours without shelter from such inclement weather would have been inhuman, and so they wore cloaks and rode in motor-cars. The "queens" of Paris, it should be explained, are elected in each of the 20 *arrondissements* by committees of local tradesmen, and one of the twenty girls is afterwards chosen as "queen of queens." Hitherto the selection has generally been carried out by men, but this year the committee tried an experiment and called upon the "queens" to select their own sovereign at a public ballot held in one of the largest halls in Paris, the Trocadéro. As election carried with it a dowry of 20,000 fr., every one of the 20 girls was keenly anxious to be chosen, and the manner of their voting was interesting to watch.

A "Feminine" Ballot.

The first ballot was in the nature of a "feeler." No one received more than two votes, and some had none at all. The second ballot was almost a repetition of the first. If the male organizers thought the 20 girls would simply vote for the one whom they considered the prettiest, they must have lacked knowledge of feminine nature. What happened was the exact reverse.

While some of the girls no doubt voted for those who were sympathetic to them, there were others who felt that they would inevitably extinguish their own chances by supporting any markedly attractive rival, and so they gave their votes to girls who, they thought, had no prospect of success. The result was that the sceptre went to a comparatively plain girl who did not get a single vote at either the first or second ballot and was visibly taken aback when the final figures were announced. All the prettiest and cleverest-looking girls were thus left out in the cold. This modern "judgement of Paris" was not a success, and next year we shall almost certainly revert to the old style.

To return to the procession, it was a rather poor affair. It contained only a few topical cars, and the cold made the clowns' attempts at merrymaking fall rather flat. This kind of thing is all very well at Nice, where the climate generally lends itself to outdoor diversions in the early spring, and the sunshine, the glitter of the sea and the half French, half Italian surroundings give an air of reality and naturalness to Carnival festivities; but in Paris, under a grey sky and with a bitter wind blowing, they seem hopelessly out of place. On the other hand they provide a break in the monotony of thousands of lives and, from the governmental point of view, help to keep people out of mischief. As in the old Roman days, the public always needs bread and circuses.

A Labour Experiment.

That extremely advanced, not to say revolutionary, body the General Labour Confereration, which is now controlled by the extremists, is patronizing an interesting experiment for the benefit of its members who belong to the theatre industry. For a long time the business of producing stage plays has been under a cloud in France, and it seems likely to go from bad to worse. To meet the enormous increase in their expenses, managers have been compelled to put up their prices to a level which is beyond the reach of many of their patrons, who have been driven to the cinema and other comparatively cheap forms of amusement.

Many theatres have closed and great numbers of actors, actresses, stage hands, electricians and other theatre specialists have been thrown out of work, especially in the provincial towns. The only way out of the difficulty is to reduce working costs so that the price of seats will no longer be prohibitive. The trade unionists in the profession believe that this can be done by forming co-operative troupes to perform at irregular intervals in "fit-ups" or any theatre or suitable building which can be hired temporarily.

Two such troops have been formed, one for Paris and the other for the suburbs, and the Confederation is giving practical support by handing over the large hall of its premises in the Rue Grange aux Belles to the members of the new enterprise, who are now trying to make it look like a theatre. They propose to give performances of plays which, of course, have been carefully selected with an eye to propaganda and have the right democratic ring. The *repertoire* is a mixture of classical and modern, ranging from Shakespeare and Molière to Bernard Shaw and Hauptmann. The charge for every seat will be the same, that is to say, three francs.

All the profits are to be divided equally among those who have taken an active part in the production. Artistes, stage manager, electricians, the men who work the curtain and scenery and take the money at the doors will all share and share alike. Intellect and labour, skilled and unskilled, are all to reap the same reward, no doubt in virtue of the theory that all are inter-dependent. We are not told what will happen in case the receipts are not enough to cover the expenses, or whether everyone is to have a voice in the management or someone is to be placed in authority, in which latter case the enterprise would of course become guilty of copying the capitalist system.

A Remarkable Village Tragedy: Sequel to Industrielle Banque Collapse:

Mar. 31.

A village tragedy that took place in the early days of the war and remained secret until quite recently has just had its *dénouement* at the Oise Assizes. It was an act of savagery committed under the combined influence of fear and the agriculturist's fierce hatred of those who would rob him of the fruits of his toil. It was known to many men and women, who combined to keep it secret, and it was only brought to light by accident. The drama was played in the course of a few hours at Vandélicourt, not far from Compiègne, on September 5, 1914, while the German armies were advancing on Paris and had already invaded the department of the Oise.

The central figure was a lad of 18 named Camille Caron, neither physically nor mentally normal. He was suspected of having set fire to a barn belonging to the mayor, M. Bullot, out of revenge for having been dismissed. There being no gendarmes or authorities of any kind in the place, the village worthies constituted a tribunal of their own and decided to administer justice for themselves. They fetched Caron from a neighbouring village, and brought him to Vandélicourt, where the fire was still raging, and he is said to have confessed that the arson was his work.

Then came the question of what was to be done with him. Girard Bullot, head of the village fire brigade and a cousin of the mayor, a labourer named Axel and another named Lefort, went off to consult an old retired magistrate who lived not far away, leaving their prisoner shut up in the fire engine station, with ropes handy, so that he could have hanged himself had he felt so inclined, and thus got them out of the difficulty. The old magistrate, after several evasive answers, is said to have told them that as they could not keep Caron prisoner for any length of time, the best thing they could do was to let him go, without troubling themselves as to what the inhabitants might do to him. Ruminating over this idea, the three men trudged back to Vandélicourt, but apparently they were not convinced that the crowd would lynch Caron effectively. They took him out of his improvised prison, as he had had the bad taste not to hang himself, and led him to the still blazing barn. Axel produced a sack, which he tied over Caron's head. Girard Bullot then whirled him suddenly round, so as to make him dizzy, and tried to throw him into the flames but Caron jumped back. Axel, who had taken up a pitchfork, struck him a violent blow with it and pushed him into the

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middle of the blazing straw. He fell into the furnace with a sharp cry, and was burnt to cinders.

JEALOUSY AT WORK.

Everyone in the village knew what had occurred, but no one, not even Caron's uncle and natural protector, felt it his duty to give information to the police, even after all danger from the enemy had passed. Peace was restored and the people of Vandélicourt went about their business undisturbed by any thought of the tragedy.

There was, however, one motive strong enough to break the conspiracy of silence. In due course the farmers and peasants put in claims for war damage to their property. The mayor estimated his own losses on a generous scale and received such a handsome sum that the others became jealous. Tongues began to wag about the "execution" of Caron, in which the mayor's cousin Girard Bullot had been one of the principal actors.

A chance remark overheard in a café by an officer of the gendarmerie attracted his attention. He reported the matter to his superiors, inquiries were made, and the whole story came out. In the local archives was found a signed statement relating to the trial, the alleged confession and the burning alive of the unfortunate Caron, which was represented as having been carried out by the whole body of the exasperated villagers. Eventually Girard Bullot and Axel alone were indicted. When brought to trial the other day at Beauvais, they pleaded that they merely took part in the doings of a crowd driven to frenzy by Caron's crime and the approach of the enemy. The jury readily accepted this view and the two prisoners were acquitted.

ECHO OF THE BANQUE INDUSTRIELLE COLLAPSE.

Another little affair calling for the attention of justice has developed out of the failure of the Banque Industrielle de Chine.

In December, 1919, that concern floated an issue of 24,000 bonds of 500 francs each for the Société Commerciale et Maritime du Pacifique. The 12,000,000 francs produced by this issue should have been used partly for the purchase of ships and partly for the acquisition of mortgages on real estate, which were to be held as security for the bondholders. As a matter of fact, the money went into the coffers of the bank, which paid the Société du Pacifique (founded by M. Galusser, a friend of M. Pernotte, the leading spirit in the Banque Industrielle) interest at the rate of 5 per cent. Some ships were bought, but guarantee for the bondholders was not obtained. The 12,000,000 francs seems to have been a set-off against a sum of 37,000,000 francs owing by the company to the bank.

Both concerns had their offices in the same premises in the Boulevard Haussmann, and were evidently in close relationship, the exact nature of which M. Richaud, one of the Paris examining magistrates, is now trying to find out. Though witnesses have assured him that the assets of the Banque Industrielle will turn out to be quite sufficient to provide the Société du Pacifique bondholders with an adequate guarantee, the magistrate is not satisfied with the explanations why the fund was not constituted in accordance with the pledge given when the bonds were issued, and he has accordingly formulated another charge of fraud against M. Pernotte in this connexion.

A WEIRD PLAY.

That curious little theatre the Grand Guignol keeps up its reputation for variations upon themes of horror. It has just added to its collection a subject which most people would have thought impossible for stage treatment. It is an adaptation, by M. Pierre Rehm, of a novel published some fifteen years ago, by M. Claude Farrère, "La Maison des Trois Hommes Vivants."

Capt. Jeffries, of the American army on the Rhine, loses his way in a forest while vainly searching for a beautiful young woman who crossed his path a few days before.

Night falls, and an aged man leads the officer to a dwelling hard by, with a promise to put him on the right road at dawn. In the house is the woman for whom Jeffries has been looking. She is in the power of three frail old men, one of whom is nearly two centuries old. They are alchemists who have kept themselves alive by transfusing the blood of young people into their veins. They are, in a word, scientific vampires. The young woman is one of their victims. Instead of using his revolver, Jeffries allows them to throw him into a hypnotic slumber, in which they detach his "double" from him.

The young woman, it seems, has her "double" too, which grows paler and thinner every day, to the surprise of her family, who are unaware of the spell which the alchemist-vampires have cast on her. The play ends with a fall down a precipice, but whether the victim is Jeffries or his "double" is not at all clear. It is a weird production. The play, being without the semi-scientific atmosphere which the novelist creates round his vampires, is a good deal less creepy than the book.

EVIDENCE of a distinctly curious type was given at an inquiry held a few days ago at Hongkong into the death of a Japanese girl, aged 14, the adopted daughter of a hotel proprietor. Her body had been taken from the harbour by the Water Police, and when found there were pieces of cloth bound tightly round her hips and other parts of her body. The Kowloon Medical Officer expressed the opinion that death was due to drowning, and all the relatives called stated that they believed she had committed suicide. She had been in the habit of reading books totally unfit for young people, often going to the hillside to peruse tragic stories and returning in an hysterical condition. Although all her relatives were good to her she said that she was tired of life. A verdict of suicide whilst temporarily insane was returned.

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OUR CANADIAN LETTER

Prohibition Still a Vital Issue: Proposed Reforms: The Reciprocity Question: Parliament in Session: Mania for Legislation: Canada's Fire Losses

From Our Own Correspondent.

Kingston, Ont., Mar. 31.

There have been some unusually interesting matters connected with Canada's great question of prohibition during the past month. It has come to light that on the night preceding the end of the last session of the Ontario Legislation "a little party" was held in the room of one of the Ministers at which, contrary to the Ontario Temperance Act, whisky formed a part of the entertainment. To add to the joviality of the proceedings, several male and female friends are reported to have been present. Of course when this became known it raised a big scandal, and attracted attention from one end of the country to the other. One point to remember is that the Premier of this Province, Mr. Drury, and its Attorney-General, Mr. Raney, are both rabid Prohibitionists: the latter is enforcing the Temperance Act to its extreme limits.

To show how important the matter was regarded, directly it became known, the City Council of Toronto took it up, and demanded an inquiry as it was one "affecting the welfare of the city's good name and government." The United Farmers' Organization, which was mainly instrumental in putting the present Farmer and Labour Coalition Government in office in Ontario, also passed a resolution asking "Premier Drury and the Attorney-General to take such steps as shall preserve the honour of the United Farmers."

The matter came up in the House: the Premier said that he had heard of it soon after the little party had been held, but on making inquiries had found that the Minister in whose room it had been held had not been present at it, nor any other Minister, so he had taken no steps. He refused to take any, so did the Attorney-General: the Speaker said it was no business of his to order an inquiry, and the members of the House did nothing. It was thought that the Dominion Alliance, which is striving so hard to make Canada "bone dry," would insist upon an inquiry, but by an actual resolution refused to do so.

Thus the delightful opportunity is given the anti-prohibitionists, which is sure to be taken advantage of more and more as time goes on, of declaring that the Ontario Legislation has one law for itself and another for the people, that the Temperance Act is not being justly enforced, and that the Dominion Alliance allows this.

Premier and Prohibition.

Another important matter bearing upon this subject is that the new Premier, the Hon. Mackenzie King, in answer to a deputation from the Dominion Alliance demanding the introduction of legislation making prohibition apply to the whole of Canada, said: "I do not believe in prohibition in anything, but I do believe in temperance in everything." He also took the stand that it would be wise before any further requests were made for legislation to wait and see what the results of prohibition were in those Canadian Provinces which had adopted it, and in the United States, and he doubted if trying to make all the Provinces dry would tend to the unity of the country. Good judges say that it certainly would not, as Quebec would never consent to prohibition.

There is a third matter which must be mentioned and these three should go a long way to explain why when writing of Canada it is impossible to get away from prohibition. The License Commissioners of Canada, who have to administer the Temperance Act, have recently urged municipalities in the Province to remit certain taxation on hotels, so that their proprietors should have more money to spend in making their places more attractive to tourists, and particularly the hundreds of thousands of automobilists who come from the United States. Since prohibition was forced on this Province the hotels have had hard times to get along and this has not increased their attractiveness. It has been the reverse in the Provinces of Quebec and British Columbia, where there is government control of liquor. Travel is going to them, both from the other Provinces and the United States. But further than that, Americans are purchasing property and establishing industries and branch industries in them in preference to other Provinces. Thus it can be seen that Prohibition is affecting the material prosperity of the individual Provinces, why it forms such an everlasting question, and why there is more likelihood of government control taking the place of Prohibition in the dry Provinces in the course of time.

Proposed Reforms.

Mr. Raney is hard at work trying to enforce Prohibition, to put down betting on race tracks. This would practically mean the end of horse-racing. He has started out to stop the people of Ontario from making appeals to the Privy Council. He claims that the Canadian Judges are quite capable of settling all cases, and that the expenses of appeals to the Privy Council place poor people under great disadvantages. There may be something in the latter claim, but the preponderance of legal, and probably public, opinion is that it is wise to have an absolutely independent Court to which appeals can be taken. Some people are asking why he should be trying to break a tie with the Motherland, and the use of a Court which is approved of by the other Provinces and the rest of the Empire.

Canada and U. S. A.

It was said in my last letter that reciprocity might form a question once again with the United States, and become a bitter one in Canada. There is less likelihood of this now and for some time to come. The Hon. W. S. Fielding, the Finance Minister, has paid a visit to Washington to see if such a function could be discussed between the two counties, and finds conditions there different from those in 1911, when it will be remembered that he, with the late Sir Wilfred Laurier, forced the question as the great issue of the election in that year, which led to the overwhelming defeat of the Liberal party. Though the States is finding out that "lop-sided" trading—being willing to sell but not to buy—is ruining their export trade, there is no desire shown to lower the high rates imposed upon imports under the present Emergency Tariff Bill, or those even higher ones proposed in the Permanent Tariff Bill now being considered by Congress, much less any Reciprocity Treaty. The only hope he found held out to him was that under the new Permanent Tariff Act, authority may be given the President to make treaties with those countries which are prepared to make "satisfactory terms" with the States, but no inkling of what those terms would be has been mentioned so far.

Mr. Fielding has not yet introduced his Budget into the Dominion House, and it remains to be seen whether he will take any measures of retaliation against the United States high tariff or give preferential rates to the Motherland and the Overseas Dominions so as to build up that trade, and thus offset the loss of the American market, which has already hit Canada very hard.

Parliament in Session.

Parliament has met and, as usual, has been wasting about two weeks in long, wearisome, and needless speeches in what is called the reply to the Speech from the Throne. It is rather curious that Canadians tolerate this as the process is a very costly one as well as being almost useless. Of course there may be one reason for it so far as the members are concerned, in that the session has to last a certain number of days in order that they shall become entitled to their sessional indemnity of $4,000. Incidentally, it may be mentioned that a new member has proposed that this amount should now be reduced to its former one of $2,500 which would even then be $500 more than the members of the British House of Commons receive, but it is not very likely that "the cut" will be made.

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MANIA FOR LEGISLATION.

The Duke of Devonshire, soon after he had been appointed Governor-General of Canada, said that the first thing which had struck him here was that the country was over-governed. That is perfectly true: but the curious part of it is that the people themselves contribute to this. The craze for legislation upon every conceivable subject is remarkable, but it seems to be forgotten that the more laws there are, the more costly machinery will be required to enforce them. As an example, some people are asking that an Act should be passed compelling all men who go out shooting game in the bush should wear gaudy coloured clothes, so that their companions should not shoot them in mistake for game. So far as the Dominion Government is concerned the total vote in 1903 for civil government was $1,404,000: in 1913 it had increased to $5,372,000, and this year approximately $11,000,000. It must be pointed out that in addition to this there are the expenses of Government by the various Provincial Governments and by the municipalities.

CANADA'S FIRE LOSSES.

Fire losses still go on madly in Canada. During 1921 there were 25,916 fires reported to the Department of Insurance causing damages to property to the amount of $45,015,930, and this exclusive of the almost incalculable loss arising from forest fires. The increase in the loss from $33,817,050 in 1918, and loss in former years, to the above amount is said to confirm the general belief that fires and trade depression go together. Downright carelessness is answerable for a great many losses, especially in the matter of throwing away burning matches, and the ends of cigarettes. Last week I had the opportunity of seeing the ruins of a fine curling rink which had been destroyed by fire, simply owing to a man having thrown a lighted cigarette end into a corner where it smouldered, set light to something inflammable after the rink was closed, and ended in burning the whole place. This is but one instance of many which I could quote. It is the same thing with regard to forest fires: a cigarette end lighted thrown down carelessly into dry leaves—then a terrible bush fire. It may be said that the loss by fires in Canada on the basis of population is $5.22 *per capita* as compared with $0.90 *per capita* in Great Britain, where fire losses in 1921 amounted only to $36,400,000.

MONTREAL'S CITY HALL.

Montreal has just lost its fine City Hall by fire, and the loss is estimated at some $5,000,000, while the insurance upon it was only some $200,000. So far, no report has appeared authoritatively stating the cause of the fire. The building was a particularly fine one, being one of the sights of the city. A large number of interesting historic paintings and other things were burned.

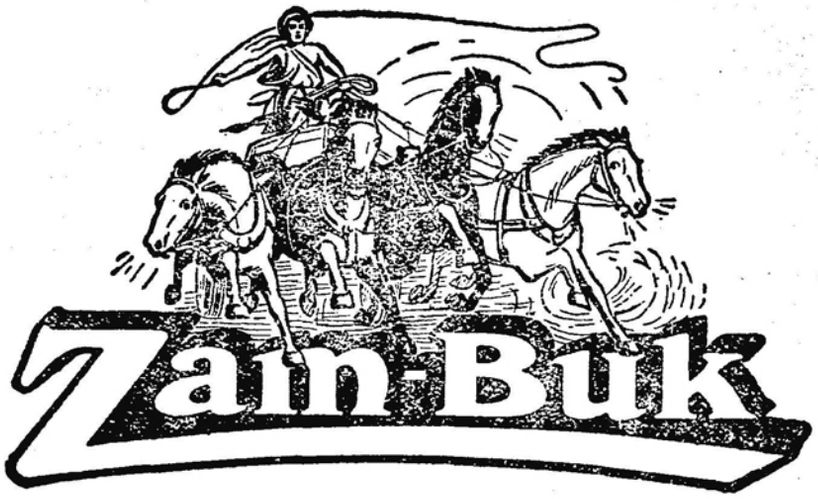
INTERNATIONAL MATCH-MAKING COS.

A match manufacturing concern which associates in its directorate three of the largest match making companies in the world has established itself at Pembroke in Ontario. It is the Canadian Match Co., Ld., a third of the stock is held by Mal Guire Patterson and Palmer Co, of Canada: one by Bryant and May of London, England, and the other by the Diamond Match Co. of the United States. It is said that the matches which the company will make will be non-poisonous, and that rats and mice will not gnaw them.

IMMIGRATION QUESTION.

Immigration is causing no end of discussion. It is vital for Canada, and she is looking to this to improve trade, open up vacant lands, and thus finally to provide traffic on the railways owned by the State which will do away with deficits and make them pay. The problem is to secure the right kind of immigrant. The British are preferred but the suitable ones are not numerous, and Australia, New Zealand, and South Africa are after them too. The probability is that some scheme of co-operation between the Dominion Government, the Provincial Legislatures, the Canadian Railways, and the Motherland will be arrived at but it will prove a hard problem to solve. In the Dominion House a strong plea has been put up by a member from Vancouver for refusing admittance of all Orientals to Canada. British Columbia is the Province which suffers most from them. They cannot associate with Canadians and they are costly in many ways, it is claimed, while in some industries they are obtaining almost creating monopolies. It cost Vancouver $60,000 last year to educate Oriental children.

THE "*Hochi*" says that there has been a marked increase of late in the number of suicides in Japan. According to investigations made by the Statistical Department of the Metropolitan Police, during the last year there were 247 suicides by strangulation in Tokio and district, 269 by drowning, 77 by *harakiri*, 264 by poisoning, and 121 on the railway track. The causes of these suicides are multifarious, the chief among them being disappointment in love, divorce, sickness, family discord and difficulty of living. Men and women between 20 and 30 years of age constitute the largest proportion of the suicides.



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SHANGHAI NEWS

CAPTIVES OF YUNNAN BANDITS

Dr. and Mrs. Taylor in Shanghai: Story of their Detention in Brigand Camps

MRS. TAYLOR'S STRATEGY

Being captured by brigands has ceased to be a novelty in China but that fact lessens not at all the reality of such an occurrence to the captured. Dr. and Mrs. Taylor are only two of many missionaries who have undergone the strain and discomfort of the "fortunes of pioneering." They are now in Shanghai, having come here from Yunnanfu to attend the National Christian Conference and are staying at the China Inland Mission headquarters, and when interviewed by a representative of the "North-China Daily News" gave a vivid but unaffected story of their experience. It also serves as a timely illustration of the continued lawless state of the country. Before telling the story, it is necessary to view the kaleidoscopic political background upon which it rests. It is romantic, mediaeval, and almost unbelievable, worthy of Attila and his hordes.

Yunnan's Tuchun, Tang Chi-yao, a political strategist of no mean ability, used a practical and wise method in 1920 of ridding his province of brigandage. He allowed them access to the city, put them on his pay-roll and had no difficulty in maintaining discipline since they had been soldiers before a previous disbandment. At that time he promised them safety as long as they respected law and order. The following facts are well known, General Ku's treachery when on his northern campaign and Tang's subsequent ejection from Yunnan. It followed that Tang's promise to the reformed bandits was not kept by General Ku who ordered the execution of General Yang, their leader.

A WIDOW'S VOW OF VENGEANCE

The widow of General Yang assumed the command in his stead and led the deceived men back to their mountain fastnesses, personally carrying a banner on which was inscribed the slogan "To Avenge my Husband's Death." These outlaws, 20,000 strong, plundered and sacked in small bands on their way to the hills and there, Generals Wu and Pu, subordinates of the deceased leader, maintained their strongholds.

Such was the situation when Dr. and Mrs. Howard Taylor approached the city of Yunnanfu in February last, carried in chairs, and accompanied only by two Chinese Christian gentlemen. For three years they had been spreading the gospel throughout all the provinces of China, except the three southernmost, and had never suffered molestation of any kind. They were, in fact, within 20 miles of the capital when they were suddenly set upon by a wild horde decked out in silken turbans and other looted finery and bristling with guns, cartridge belts, daggers and swords. The comic opera appearance of this troop can be imagined, but it was serious enough for all that, despite the huge and gorgeous turbans of brilliant silks. Their greeting was in keeping with their incongruous outfit.

"We invited Dr. Parker to be our guest in the mountains but he left without saying 'Good-bye,'" said the leader. He referred to the escape of a former unwilling guest, Dr. Herbert Parker.

AT BANDITS HEADQUARTERS.

After three days' continual travel Dr. and Mrs. Taylor, escorted by the bandits, reached General Pu's headquarters, where they were treated with as much consideration as such a rough band knew how to give. Here matters came to a head. General Ku's troops were advancing from Yunnanfu in pursuit, word having reached the capital of the capture of the Taylors. The imprisoned missionaries were thereupon informed in no uncertain terms that their lives were forfeit should the Yunnan contingent overtake Pu's band.

Guided by considerations of his own gain, General Pu decided that Mrs. Taylor should start immediately for Yunnanfu to mediate and to impress his threat upon the Government. Setting forth in her chair alone, Mrs. Taylor fortunately, though unexpectedly, stumbled upon the advancing Government forces, and used every argument at her command to dissuade them from carrying out orders. After protracted argument, the officer agreed to turn back in the direction of Yunnan and to await the result of Mrs. Taylor's embassy to General Ku, before moving forward. Without doubt, Mrs. Taylor's strategy saved her husband's life. Five weeks of attempts at mediation by her resulted only in the recalling of Ku's forces from their pursuit of the brigands.

RELEASED AT LAST.

All this time Dr. Taylor's life was in jeopardy, which was not lessened by his presence with them on forays which they made in the last fortnight right and left, looting, burning, and torturing as they went along. It is only just to say that for three weeks as proposed, the bandits refrained from pillaging pending the arrival of Ku's answer, and, unlike that treacherous overlord, kept their promise. What would the prisoner's fate have been had not General Tang Chi-yao opportunely appeared from the south with strong menacing forces with whom the brigands were only too ready to join? From the time of the capture of the missionaries to the arrival of Tang, prayers had been incessantly offered by the anxious friends in the Mission and to them the former Governor's arrival and Dr. Taylor's subsequent release were a direct manifestation of divine intervention.

No tidings are at hand as to the fate of the widow of Yang and her inspired banner but her avengement was complete. Tuchun Ku's ejection from Yunnan and the re-establishment of Tang Chi-yao, which brought the brigands into peaceful lines again, are well-known facts, as is also the violent death of Ku. But as one good turn deserves another. Ku's followers have replaced the former comic opera caste, leaving suffering and chaos in their wake as before.

WEDDING

Miller—Shearer

A wedding in which much interest was taken was solemnized at Union Church on Friday last, when Miss Elizabeth Patrick Shearer was married to Mr. W. D. B. Miller, of Hankow. The bride is a daughter of the late Mr. A. Shearer, of Shanghai, and of Mrs. Shearer, of Renfrew, Scotland, and the bridegroom is a son of the late Andrew Miller, and Mrs. I. B. Miller, of 118 Avenue Road. Both are well known in Shanghai, Mr. Miller particularly as a former member of the Deluge Company of the Fire Brigade, and of the Maxims Co., S.V.C. During the war he served with the Tank Corps.

The marriage service was conducted by the Rev. A. N. Rowland. The bride, who was attended by Mrs. T. Hutchison as matron of honour, and was given away by her brother-in-law Mr. T. Hutchison, was charmingly attired in a silver brocade directoire dress with silver train and trimmed with silver lace. Her bridesmaids Miss Mina Martin and Miss Jean Hutchison, wore pretty white embroidered net dresses over shell pink, matched with rosebed trimmed net Dutch caps. Mr. J. A. Offer acted as best man, and Messrs. D. M. Drummond and R. W. Wells as ushers.

Mr. C. F. Garstin, acting Consul-General, conducted the civil ceremony at H. M's Consulate.

A largely attended reception was held at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. T Hutchison, 386 Avenue Joffre, following which, with the good wishes of their many friends, Mr. and Mrs. Miller left for Tsingtao where the honeymoon will be spent. The bride's going away dress was of pale grey charmeuse, embroidered with blue and trimmed with grey lace, with hat to match.

THE French Municipal Council has passed a supplementary vote of 45,000 francs for the purchase of five machine-guns and 12 automatic rifles, with the necessary ammunition from the Government of Indo-China, for the defence of the Concession. At present the Indo-China authorities are unable to supply more than two machine-guns, but as the number above stated is considered indispensable for the security of the Concession, the total amount required has been voted in the expectation of obtaining the remaining guns later on.

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UNPUNCTUALITY ON THE RAILWAY

An Explanation by the S. N. R.: Shortage of Rolling Stock and Growing Demands

DOUBLE LINE REQUIRED

With reference to our Note and Comment on Tuesday entitled. "Unpunctuality" we have received the following statement from the traffic manager of the Shanghai-Nanking Railway:—

In spite of the limited capacity of the rolling stock and facilities available, the passenger traffic on the Shanghai-Nanking Line has increased by leaps and bounds, and already this year the Railway has carried no fewer than 4,000,000 passengers, besides dealing with a very considerable tonnage of goods traffic.

In view of the over-crowding of the trains, the Railway has been reluctantly compelled to cancel the issue of week-end return tickets, and many of the usual concession rates to picnic and other parties, but even so it is frequently found necessary to warn passengers on booking that there is "standing room" only.

The working time-table of the Railway provides for the running of 56 regular passenger trains daily, in addition to a full service of goods trains. It will be readily realized that on a single line railway, where the lengths of the sections, or distances between stations, are irregular, the arrangement of a train service consisting of express, fast, and local passenger trains, as well as goods trains, all running at different speeds, and each of relative importance, presents considerable difficulties. With such a high traffic density as obtains on the Shanghai-Nanking Line, it is almost impossible to avoid occasional delays, preference having, of course, to be given to the through express trains which connect with the northern railways. As a matter of fact, if only one train, for whatever reason, gets out of course, or, in other words is delayed, it may so react on other trains that the whole service may easily become disorganized. That the delays to the local trains are not more frequent is due to the intelligence and ability of the Chinese staff, each member of whom has to pass a most rigorous examination before appointment, and is subject to constant foreign supervision.

But the only real cure for the difficulties, which are becoming more and more accentuated, is the doubling of the line, and the provision of additional rolling stock, respecting which the management have for some time been making urgent representations. In the meantime the most up-to-date "train control" system, which has been of inestimable service on railways in other parts of the world, is being installed, and will shortly be in full use.

It is worthy of note that the Shanghai-Nanking Railway pass over their line a greater number of trains and have a faster schedule than any other single line railway in the world.

COLLISION OF TRAIN AND MOTOR LORRY

The recklessness of a chauffeur is alleged to have been the cause of a serious accident at Wantsaopang at 9.26 o'clock on Tuesday morning, which resulted in several men being sent to hospital.

It appears that the driver of goods lorry No. 5232 (F. 128), belonging to Messrs. C. Eddie & Co., was driving his vehicle to Woosung with provisions for the U.S.S. Huron. Coming to the Wantsaopang Station, he is alleged to have ignored the warnings of the crossing-keeper that a train was due at that minute from Shanghai, and attempted to drive over the crossing, in spite of the closed bars. The front part of the machine is believed to have got caught and the motor stopped.

The man made frantic efforts to release his car, several of the eight men who were on the lorry scrambled off and signals were made to stop the train, but these were of no avail, for the latter could not pull up in time and the collision took place.

Three men who remained on the lorry were thrown to the ground and sustained injuries which necessitated their being taken to hospital. The motor lorry was crushed and the front part of the engine was slightly damaged.

Following the accident, the chauffeur, who is alleged to be responsible for the accident, is said to have admitted that it was his fault and that, before his lorry had tried to cross, he saw the train coming but thought he might run through first before the train passed. He admitted that it was "bad luck."

From other sources it is claimed that the truck was stalled on the crossing but the driver of engine No. 56 failed to stop in response to a signal, resulting in the motor being badly wrecked. Two men were sent to hospital, with injuries to their legs.

It is believed that a couple of sailors were on the lorry but this has not been confirmed.

The scene yesterday showed that the lorry had been thrown against a concrete post on the east side, smashing it. This post was later replaced, and the damaged lorry was brought back to Shanghai yesterday by Messrs. G. H. Thompson & Co.

It was pointed out, when inquiries were made at the Shanghai-Nanking Railway by a representative of the "North-China Daily News" yesterday, that a train could only pull up at double lengths of the train, a distance of about 1,200 feet, and as the emergency signal was given when the train was very near the motor lorry, the accident could not have been averted.

In this connexion, it is worth mentioning the fact that the vicinity where the accident took place and the road leading thereto are favourite spots for chauffeurs, who try to race the trains and in spite of warnings that have been issued, many chauffeurs still persist in the dangerous practice, thus endangering their own lives and the lives of the occupants of their cars.

TRIBUTE TO MR. W. E. SOUTER

Presentation by Famine Relief Committee

At the last meeting of the Governing Board of the Chinese-Foreign Famine Relief Committee Mr. Chu Pao-san, on behalf of the Chinese members of the Board, presented to Mr. Wm. E. Souter, on the occasion of his departing on home leave, a massive silver shield bearing a suitable inscription in English and Chinese.

Mr. Chu Pao-san said that since 1920 Mr. Souter had been the heart and brain of famine relief effort, and pointed out that it was the efforts of the Shanghai Famine Relief Committee that set the work going which culminated in other committees being formed in Peking, Tientsin, etc.; and all their work had prevented any serious death-roll in the famine of 1920-21. Mr. Souter took hold again in the famine through the floods of last year and had about brought the relief work in Anhwei, Kiangsu and Chekiang to a satisfactory conclusion.

Furthermore the new Huai Valley Conservancy Board just formed to deal with the source of these ever recurring famines had Mr. Souter as its Co-Chairman, and here again he had shown his abundant interest in the Chinese people, and conspicuous ability in tackling the organization of this Huai Valley Board.

Mr. Chu Pao-san said that Mr. Souter's name had travelled far and wide and he was held in the highest esteem and honour by the Chinese people.

Japanese Admirals Entertained

Shanghai, May 18.

A banquet was given this evening at the Japanese Club by some 200 of the leading Japanese residents of Shanghai in honour of Vice-Admiral Yoshida and Rear-Admiral Kobayashi, the retiring commander and new commander, respectively, of the 1st Japanese Detached Squadron. Vice-Admiral Yoshida, who has been appointed a member of the Board of Admirals, is leaving Shanghai for home on May 20 on board the str. Kumano Maru.—Eastern News Agency.

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DR. WELLINGTON KOO ENTERTAINED

Guest of the British Chamber of Commerce: Anglo-Chinese Relations

Dr. Wellington Koo was the guest at a tiffin given in his honour on Wednesday by the British Chamber of Commerce. Mr. A. W. Burkill, Chairman of the Chamber, presided, supported by Messrs. W. A. Argent, C H. Arnhold, W. H. Trenchard Davis, H. H. Fox, O.M.G., L. W. Hutton, E. F. Mackay, C. G. S. Mackie, P. W. Massey, G. W. Sheppard, G. H. Stitt, C. G. Humphrys and E. M. Gull, secretary.

The guests also included Admiral Tsai Ting-kan and Messrs. C. F. Garstin, H.B.M. Acting Consul-General, A. C. Clear, F. W. Potter, Duncan McNeill, O. M. Green, B. D. F. Beith, R. W. Robertson, and Y. L. Yang.

In proposing the toast of their guests, Mr. Burkill said:—

"I would like to express our appreciation of the honour they have done to the British Chamber of Commerce by their presence here to-day. His Excellency Dr. Wellington Koo, who has been aptly described as one of China's foremost young men, has taken a very prominent part in furthering the interests of this great country in which we live. Few men have filled the many positions that he has with such distinction and ability. Besides being Minister in London, Dr. Koo has taken an active part in the deliberations of the League of Nations and the Washington Conference. It is, perhaps, in respect of his work there that I may be permitted to say a few words, as it was work in which this Chamber was intensely interested. The ideas which he put forward were ideas with which this Chamber has for long had the most complete sympathy. Dr. Koo's task at Washington was to put forward China's claims for the recognition of certain rights. The recognition of these rights has been the subject matter of many deliberations on the part, not only of this branch of the British Chamber of Commerce, but at the Annual Conferences held since 1919.

THE OPEN DOOR AND SHANTUNG.

"I do not propose to go into details of these rights. The two most important are the questions of the 'Open Door' and the 'Retrocession of Shantung,' and these we have always strongly advocated. I may state that we are completely in accord with recognition of her administrative rights over the Postal Service in China, more especially as the Chinese postal service is an object lesson of what can be done in this country. We view sympathetically China's desire ultimately to enjoy judicial autonomy provided—and I cannot but think Dr. Koo will agree with the proviso—that China does not try to go too fast in the matter, but will consent to reform her judicial administration thoroughly and efficiently.

"We consequently watched Dr. Koo's handling of these great and important subjects with the utmost interest and we are delighted to think that China's rights have now been safeguarded beyond possibility of dispute, and so, gentlemen, in welcoming Dr. Koo, we welcome the embodiment of China's hopes for herself and our hopes for China.

"In the welcome we give him, we associate most warmly his able coadjutor at Washington, Admiral Tsai Ting-kan and whilst perhaps his name did not appear so frequently in the messages we received from Washington, yet I feel that charming persuasive manner of his was very effective. One somehow associates this word 'effective' with Admiral Tsai. I have had the pleasure of hearing him discussing Tariff Revision on the basis of an 'effective 5 per cent.' and owing to the charm of manner that I have already alluded to, I feel certain that he will get what he wants."

DR. WELLINGTON KOO'S REPLY.

Rising to reply, Dr. Wellington Koo spoke of his appreciation of the hospitality of the British Chamber of Commerce, and of the opportunity it had given him to address them. He referred to the deep sympathy and close connexion of the British Empire and the country of China; of the long, long front on which their boundaries marched together; of the thousands of British subjects resident in Chinese territory and the hundreds of thousands of Chinese resident in British territory. He went on to describe how China was industrially and commercially awakening, not among any small class, but with a nation-wide consciousness. There was no people, he said, to whom she looked more eagerly than to those of the British Empire. Dr. Koo then dwelt on the fact that business connexions did not stop short at trade, but also developed friendship. Of this he had had personal experience at Washington. He paid a glowing tribute to the help that had been accorded to China on that occasion by Great Britain. Much of the success of the Conference, from the Chinese point of view, was due to the British and in that the part played by the Association of British Chambers of Commerce in China, though quiet, was none the less sincere and effective. During his period as Chinese Minister in London, he had had many opportunities of observing the efforts made by the British community in China to promote the welfare, not only of Great Britain, but of China, and of all the Allied communities in China. These things were of good augury for the future. He wound up with some earnest references to the importance of Great Britain contributing to the education of Chinese on British lines and paid a tribute to the efforts made by the British Chambers of Commerce in that direction.

Admiral Tsai Ting-kan then made a very delightful speech which was greeted with loud applause, and a very pleasant entertainment thus came to an end.

Views on the Shantung Railway Redemption

Dr. Wellington Koo, Chinese Minister to Great Britain, was occupied all day on Saturday last filling numerous engagements.

After spending the morning receiving visitors, Dr. Koo proceeded to the Chinese General Chamber of Commerce in the afternoon to deliver an address before the Association for the Redemption of the Shantung Railway. Following this, he motored to the St. John's University, his *alma mater*, were he was accorded a reception by the University Alumni Association. In the evening, Dr. Koo attended a concert and dance given by the American Returned Students' Club in Nanking Road.

After detailing what happened at the Washington Conference, and explaining China's aim and her demands, Dr. Koo went on to give his views of the situation, viz., if the Shantung railway can actually be redeemed, not simply by talking, China will be raised to a higher estimation in the eyes of the whole world than ever before. "We cannot regain Shantung *simply* by talking: we cannot allow ourselves to be conquered by that 'five minute patriotic' spirit; we must give a lot of time and thought to the question; we must have definite aims. Thus the attitude of the nations towards China will be changed."

"If we can redeem the railway and administer Shantung properly ourselves," continued the Minister, "it will show that we can govern and support ourselves. But we must work to make Shantung even better than it was when it was controlled by the Germans and Japanese. If this is not the case, the foreign nations will say that we have not the spirit of self government and their attitude towards us will be one of contempt. And so we must work, and work hard to attain these objects."

Dinner of Honour at Bureau of Foreign Affairs

Dr. Wellington Koo was guest of honour at a dinner given by General Ho Feng-ling Military Governor of Shanghai and Sungkiang, and Mr. Hsu Yuan, Special Commissioner of Foreign Affairs, at the latter's bureau on Tuesday night.

There were more than 50 guests including Mr. C. F. Garstin, H. M. acting Consul-General; M. G. D. de la Prade, acting French Consul-General; Mr. E. S. Cunningham, U. S. Consul-General, Comm. G. de Rossi, Italian Consul-General and Senior Consul; Mr. N. Aall, Norwegian Consul-General; Baron G. E. Akerhielm, Swedish Consul-General; Captain J. Isler, Swiss Consul-General; Herr F. Thiel, German Consul-General; Mr. T. Funatsu, Japanese Consul-General; Mr. T. van Haute, Belgian Consul-General; Mr. W. A. A. M. Daniels, Dutch Consul-in-charge;

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Mr. L. R. Almoedo, Spanish Consul; Mr. H. Hergel, Danish Consul; Mr. Julean Arnold, U. S. Commercial Attaché; Mr. V. Grosse, Co-Director for Russian Affairs; Mr. H. G. Simms, Chairman of the Shanghai Municipal Council; Mr. C. N. Holwill, Deputy Commissioner of Customs; Mr. A. W. Burkill, Chairman of the British Chamber of Commerce; Mr. V. G. Lyman, Chairman of the American Chamber of Commerce; Mr. O. M. Green; General Wang Ching-chen, Chief of Staff to the Military Governor; Commander H Kao, Chief of Staff to the Commander-in-Chief of the Chinese Fleet; Mr. Wang Ken-ting, Shanghai Taoyin; Mr. Shen Pao-chang, Shanghai District Magistrate; Admiral Tsai Ting-kan, Chairman of the Tariff Revision Commission; Mr. F. M. Sah, Director of the Shanghai Mint; Magistrate Kuan, of the International Mixed Court; Magistrate Nieh, of the French Mixed Court; Mr. C. C. Nieh, Chairman of the Chinese General Chamber of Commerce; Mr. C. P. Yin, Managing Director of the Shanghai-Nanking and Shanghai-Hangchow-Ningpo Railways; Mr. Fu Siao-en, Managing Director of the Commercial Bank of China; Mr. T. S. K. Loh, Secretary to the Military Governor; Dr. T. H. Lee, President of Fuhtan University; Dr. Huang Yen-pei, Chairman of the Kiangsu Educational Association, Mr. Chang Nieh-yun, foreign secretary of the Chinese General Chamber of Commerce; Messrs. Chao, Yang and Sung, secretaries to Dr. Koo; and Messrs. S. K. Chen and N. T. Yang, secretaries of the Bureau.

Complimentary speeches were made by Mr. Hsu Yuen, Dr. Koo and Comm. dé Rossi, and the healths drunk of the President of the Chinese Republic and the guest of the evening.

LUNCHEON TO MME. WELLINGTON KOO

A complimentary luncheon to Madame Koo, wife of the Minister to Great Britain, took place at the Union Club on Wednesday, given by the British Women's Association. The party is best described as a purely "friendly" one, for the sociability of the occasion was uninterrupted by speeches or any of the other formalities usually connected with such functions. Mrs. E. M. Gull, chairman of the B.W.A. presided, being supported by Mrs. H. G. Simms, Vice-Chairman, and the others present were Mrs. Craddock, Mrs. Symons, Mrs. Green, Mrs. Hilton Johnson, Mrs. Peebles, Mrs. Darroch, Mrs. Cromarty, Mrs. McMeekin, Mrs. E. H. McMichael, Mrs. Ford, Mrs. Alistair Campbell, Mrs. Trueman, Mrs. Macleod, Mrs. Graham Barrow, Mrs. King and Mrs. Dovery. Madame Koo and Mrs. H. H. Fox were the guests of honour.

READERS may remember that in connexion with the lecture given by Capt. Holmes on Palestine, special attention was directed to the Officers' Christian Union. Membership of this society is open to all officers and ex-officers, and the headquarters address is Denison House, Vauxhall Bridge Road, London, S.W.1, instead of as previously stated. The Union's quarterly organ "Practical Christianity" may be ordered through Messrs. Kelly & Walsh.

CHINESE TRIBUTE TO MR. BROOKE SMITH

Farewell Dinner by Leading Residents: Appreciation of Work on the Council

Pan Ching-poo was the host at a farewell dinner given on Sunday night at his residence, Ching Yuan, to Mr. A. Brooke Smith, who is leaving soon for England on furlough. There was a representative gathering of leading British and Chinese guests, including Mr. E. F. Mackay, Admiral Tsai Ting-kan, Mr. A. W. Burkill, Messrs. Hsu Yuan, H. H. Girardet, C. R. Yin, B. D. F. Beith, Chang Nieh-yun, P. W. Massey, C. C. Nieh, Fu Siao-en, C. W. Beswick, Chun Bing-him, G. W. Sheppard, Austin, McNicol, Lo Chak-sang, Ling Pang-kee, Chan Shut-kai, Pan Tse-chuen, etc.

In proposing the health of Mr. Brooke Smith and wishing him a pleasant holiday, Mr. Pan paid a tribute to his work as Chairman of the Municipal Council, his friendly relations with the Chinese and his sense of justice and unfailing sympathy in dealing with all matters which affected the Chinese residents in this Municipality. Mr. Pan also referred to the excellent relations which had happily subsisted for many years between the house of "Ewo" and its Chinese commercial friends.

In reply Mr. Brooke Smith urged that the leading Chinese business men in Shanghai and elsewhere should take a more active part in Chinese politics and exert their influence in securing a better government for the country. "You must get a strong man, an honest man, to head a responsible Cabinet which should devote its attention to the encouragement and development of industries and opening up the country's recources. Get rid of your Militarists and Tuchuns, disband the great hordes of idle soldiers who could be put to useful employment, if only the Government could be brought to realize the wisdom of encouraging the opening up of industries throughout the country."

Mr. Brooke Smith referred to tariff anomalies and the necessity of absolute "free trade" within the boundaries of China, so that the raw materials and manufactures produced in any one part of the country could be transported and sold in every other part of China without harassing taxes and imposts. Personally, he believed that, under an efficient administration, the time was coming when China would be imposing "protective Customs duties" to protect and develop her internal industries against foreign competition.

As to the work of the Municipal Council in Shanghai, he assured his Chinese friends that no measures were taken without the fullest consideration of Chinese as well as foreign interests. The Settlement, in these troubled times, was a sanctuary for trade and peaceful intercourse, and it had always been his duty as a member of the Council to consider what was just and right for the community as a whole.

Chinese Chamber of Commerce

Mr. Brooke-Smith was the guest of honour at a farewell tiffin party given at the Union Club on Tuesday by Messrs. Chu Pao-san and C. C. Nieh, the past and present Chairmen of the Chinese Chambers of Commerce, Messrs. Chun Bing-him, Chang Nieh-yun and other Chinese friends. Among those present were Messrs. G. H. Stitt, H. G. Simms, E. F. Mackay, H. H. Girardet, C. W. Burkill, T. G. Drakeford, J. H. Little, G. N. Wilson, Fu Siao-en, Pan Ching-poo, Pan Tse-chuen, Chan Shut-kai, Lo Chak-sang, Wu Sin-shu, etc.

Speaking for Mr. Chu Pao-san and himself, Mr. Chang paid an eloquent tribute to Mr. Brooke-Smith and his achievements as Chairman of the Municipal Council and as head of the great firm of "Ewo."

Mr. Nieh described Mr. Brooke-Smith as a splendid type of the solid, straightforward and upright British business-man—"the kind of man you can absolutely depend upon for fair-play and just dealing." He said his contact with Mr. Brooke-Smith in recent years had made him better acquainted with and more appreciative of the sterling business integrity and friendship of the British merchant.

GERMAN PISTOLS IN SHANGHAI

Smuggling on Mishima Maru

A number of automatic pistols of German manufacture, and 3,000 rounds of ammunition were seized by Customs officers who boarded the Mishima Maru on Tuesday afternoon. While a member of the River Police was going over the vessel he noticed a steerage steward go to his bunk. As he came away the officer went to search him, but the Japanese tried to escape. He was held and, whilst in the grip of the officer, put his hand to his waist and drew an automatic pistol. There was a struggle and in the course of it the steward received a blow on the head from the pistol, which then fell to the ground. The man was taken into custody at the Japanese Consulate. Meanwhile a further search of the vessel was made and nine other pistols were found.

When the River Police attended at the Japanese Court on Wednesday in connexion with the charge against the steward, they were informed that the matter had already been disposed of, the steward having been cautioned and discharged. He had complained that the Customs officer took the revolver away from him and struck him on the head with it.

The Mishima Maru left for Japan early on Wednesday morning, and this may account for the procedure adopted in the case.

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THE RANGE SHOOTING ACCIDENT

Inquest at Mortuary: Full Story of the Coolie's Death: Accidentally Shot

COLLECTION FOR WIDOW

Mr. Blackburn (British Assessor) and Magistrate Loh held an inquest at the public mortuary on Monday into the circumstances attending the death of a range coolie employed by the Municipal Council, who was accidentally shot during the progress of a competition on the Rifle Range on Saturday.

Pte. W. Smith, of "A" Co. British, described what took place, saying that there was a knock-out competition in which sections advanced from 300 to 150 yards. Witness was the winning man in his section, and when the cease fire was sounded he hurried off the range to make way for the next section, putting on the safety catch of his rifle as he came from the mound. He went back with the man whom he had "knocked out," talking over the competition, and laid his rifle on the range truck, where the coolies were at work. He then noticed that his trigger was cocked, and at once put forward the safety catch and was on the point of opening the bolt when the rifle went off. He did not touch the trigger. The next thing he saw was the deceased lying on his back, and he immediately ran off to the police station to get an ambulance. Witness added that he did not know the rifle was loaded.

Mr. Blackburn—In the ordinary way, I suppose you would remove all cartridges from the magazine on the conclusion of a competition. Ought you not to have done that?

Witness—Yes. That would be the proper procedure.

Mr. Blackburn—I take it the omission to do so was due to forgetfulness?

Witness—Yes, owing to the excitement of my winning the competition.

Lieut. Dalton informed the Court that an inter-section competition was being conducted at the time, starting at 300 yards. Private Smith and another man advanced to 200 yards, followed by witness and two sergeants, and on to 150 yards, where Private Smith knocked his man out, ending that competition. The order was then given to cease fire. As they were in a hurry to carry on with the competition the rifles were not inspected. Witness and the sergeants then returned to the 300 yards range and he was engaged in getting the next two sections on the mound when he heard a shot fired near the cleaning cart. He ran across and found that a man had been shot, and that the rifle belonged to Private Smith.

Mr. Blackburn intimated that further evidence was unnecessary, and added that the Court found that deceased had been accidentally shot.

Co. S. M. Hearn stated that the members of "A" Company had undertaken to make a collection on behalf of the widow of the deceased.

Mr. Blackburn—As there is a family of children, the Court thinks that $300 compensation should be paid.

UPPER YANGTZE BOAT LAUNCHED

Sister Ship for Japanese Firm

The steel twin screw passenger and cargo steamer Go Ho, built to the order of Messrs. Tenge & Co., Japan, for service on the Upper River between Ichang and Chungking, was launched from the yard of the Kiangnan Dock & Engineering Works on the 12th instant. The Go Ho is the third sister ship built this year for the same owners. The launching ceremony was performed by Mr. Ogawa, when the usual custom of releasing doves on the launch of a Japanese vessel as she starts to move took place.

A fourth sister ship will also be launched this month.

These vessels are 1,050 tons gross, having machinery of 3,500 indicated horse power, giving a speed of 15½ knots, and have been built to special survey of the British Corporation and Teishinsho Survey.

The names of the four steamers are: Cho Ten, Gyo Chi, Go Ho, and Sen Ji. The first two steamers are now in service.

Blind Soldiers and Sailors

	£	$	Tls.
Previously acknowledged	11	7,095.70	670.00
$7,095.70 @ 72.4=			5,137.28
			Tls. 5,807.28
Demand draft on London £1,000 @ 3/7			5,581.40
Balance in hand			Tls. 225.88
Remitted to London on May 16, 1922 £1,011			
Total remittance up to date £22,060 10s. 2d.			
From a "Scotchman"		$5.00	
		$5.00	Tls. 225.88

Sir Arthur Pearson Memorial Funds

	£	$
Previously acknowledged	78.12s.6d	10,742.65
From Stewards of Shanghai Paper Hunt Club		1,000.00
	78.12.6	11,742.65

THE Bulletin of the French Municipal Council mentions that the revenue collected for the first quarter of 1922 amounted to Tls. 446,983.93, as against Tls. 384,108.29 for the corresponding period of 1921, while the expenditure amounted to Tls. 347,478.62 as against Tls. 360,489.47. Extraordinary expenditure incurred during the period under review came to Tls. 113,120.73.

A NEW YANGTZE STR. LAUNCHED

Fine Cargo Boat Built by New Engineering Works

Depite the inclement weather on Monday afternoon there was a fair number of visitors at the New Engineering & Shipbuilding Works, Ld., to witness the launching of the str. Ping-Wo, which was built to the order of the Indo-China S. N. Co., Ld., for its Upper Yangtze trade Mrs. A. Brooke Smith gracefully performed the christening ceremony and the vessel glided into the water very smoothly.

The Ping-Wo is an excellent example of a modern high class cargo vessel specially designed for service in the Upper Yangtze. Its dimensions are as follows:

Length over all	290 ft
Length B. P.	280 ft.
Breadth moulded	46 ft.
Depth moulded to Main Deck	13 ft. 6 in.

The vessel is constructed of steel with straight steam and elliptical stern. These are two complete steel decks designated the upper and main deck respectively, extending the full length of the vessel, the exposed upper deck, forward and aft and also the forward alleyways are being sheathed with teak.

The main hull is subdivided into five watertight compartments. Starting from forward the main compartments are allocated as follows Forepeak, forward cargo hold and 'tween decks, machinery space, after cargo hold and 'tween decks, and after peak.

The cargo hold and 'tween decks are served by extra large hatchways. Cargo ports are arranged on each side for facilitating handling of cargo in 'tween decks.

The vessel has one mast which carries two derricks of five tons lifting capacity for ordinary working and in addition a derrick for handling heavy weights.

The propelling machinery which has been constructed by the builders consists of two sets of triple expansions surface condensing engines. Steam is supplied by two large single-ended return tube boilers designed and constructed at the builders works, a Howden's forced braught installation being fitted. A donkey boiler, also built at the works, is installed for working the deck machinery and auxiliaries.

There is a very complete set of auxiliary machinery of the latest type installed in the vessel, including two duplicate electric lighting sets of direct current dynamos coupled to Sisson's enclosed steam engines.

FOLLOWING their usual custom, the Dunlop Co. have taken the earliest opportunity of giving their clients the benefit of reduced prices. A new list has just been issued which shows that the Dunlop multiple-ply cord is now lower in price than ever before.

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AMERICAN WOMAN'S CLUB

Close of a Successful Season: Activities of Departments

The last regular meeting of the American Woman's Club for this season was held on Tuesday afternoon at the Carlton Cafe. After the usual pleasant tea hour, the meeting was called to order by the President, Mrs. F. J. Raven. Mrs. Raven, who has been absent from Shanghai for some time, referred briefly to her trip to Chungking.

The minutes having been read, the Chairman of the Literary Department, Mrs. H. A. Wilbur, reported that a most profitable season had been spent on the study of Chinese literature and art prior to the Han Dynasty with 21 papers from members and others from outside authorities. The Chairman expressed the opinion that by this intensive and co-operative study much more had been accomplished than would have been possible by individual effort.

The programme committee for next year is preparing a strong outline of the succeeding period which is particularly rich in art, literature, and romance.

She reminded the club of the opportunity of viewing Mr. Morgan's collection of paintings, in the library of the Christian Literature Society, on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Mrs. V. G. Lyman, Chairman of the Social Department, announced that the Garden Party of the Club would be held on May 27 at Mrs. Raven's residence. Members finding it more convenient to contribute money instead of cake or ice cream for entertainment, may send contributions to Mrs. James Macbeth, 170 Bubbling Well Road.

Mrs. J. T. Hammond, Chairman of the Courtesies Committee reported 85 calls on new members, 28 calls on non-members and 26 calls on the sick and other visits, making a total of 185. Notes of congratulation and condolence, and flowers had also been sent. The Committee is closing its year with a tea given next Monday at Mrs. Hammond's home to the retiring and incoming Executive Boards, and non-members who have entertained the Club.

Mrs. Gardner Crane made a forceful presentation of the need for hearty co-operation to make the bazaar, to be held October 20 and 21 at the Ritz, a success, and announced that in order to secure funds for the running expenses for the bazaar a Chevrolet motor car, presented by Mr. Honigsberg, would be raffled. Tickets to the number of 25,000 are to be sold and the co-operation of the entire club is desired in selling them. Names of volunteers may be given to Mrs. R. T. Bryan, Jr. Funds raised will be used towards a club home.

Mrs. Upson announced that the club library would be kept open during the summer on Tuesday mornings from 10 to 12 and asked that all members having books out would return them next Tuesday, so that they could be checked up.

Mrs. J. W. Nichols, Chairman of the Social Service Department, reported six monthly meetings held, all with special speakers, a monthly dance for sailors given at the Navy "Y." The Community Service Committee, Mrs. Remer, Chairman, had taken care of 12 cases demanding considerable adjustment, approximating 100 visits. Among the results obtained was a very happy adoption, other cases had been sent to America and other adjustments made. Funds for this work had been appropriated by the American Red Cross and this Committee with the co-operation of the club had succeeded in raising $733 in the Membership Drive for the A.R.C.

Mrs. Leroy Healey, Treasurer, presented a very interesting report giving the financial history of the club for the past year.

Mrs. J. J. Brenneman reported 94 new members.

Mrs. M. P. Walker, Chairman of the Music Department, outlined the programme which had been carried out through the year and said the work of the next year would centre round the operas "Carmen," "Faust," and "Il Trovatore," and the work of American composers, especially Indian and Negro music.

Mrs. Fred Van Buskirk, Chairman of the Mothers' Department stated that this youngest department of the club had had a very successful year, its idea having been to make the programmes of general interest by not confining them to the discussion of children's problems only but including home management as well.

Mrs. Raven presented the request of the King's Daughters' Society for donations of jams, jellies and preserves for their Fair, which is in autumn, and asked all who would contribute to give their names to Mrs. W. H. Lacy. In closing, Mrs. Raven said she wished to repeat her conviction, expressed at the opening of the club year, that there was no limit to the power of organized womanhood. She therefore urged the club to combine its efforts for the betterment of the community and for the women and children of China. Mrs. Raven paid hearty tribute to the splendid work of the Executive Board, and thanked all who had contributed to the success of the club year.

AMONG the passengers arriving in Shanghai on Tuesday by the Admiral Line str. Pinetree State were Dr. Solf, German Ambassador to Japan, who is accompanied by Mrs. Solf, Baron Plessen, of the German Legation in Peking, Mr. Nan-ju Wu, counsellor to the Chinese delegation at the Washington Conference, Mr. H. Szeping, former secretary of the Chinese Legation at Washington, Dr. J. Hing Liu, one of China's leading surgeons, and Mrs. Liu, and Dr. M. I. Ting, a well-known Chinese lady doctor who is on her way to Tientsin to become medical director of the Peiyang Women's Hospital.

OBITUARY

Mr. B. A. Edwards

It is with regret that we announce the death, which occurred on Sunday afternoon at 4 o'clock, of Mr. Burgess Allison Edwards, a prominent and popular member of the American community of Shanghai. He was taken ill suddenly on Wednesday evening last and, in spite of a brave fight for life, succumbed to a virulent attack of scarlet fever.

Since the arrival of Mr. and Mrs. Edwards in Shanghai during the winter of 1919-20, Mr. Edward had been a keen oarsman in the Rowing Club, being one of the crew of the American fours and eights in the Spring Regatta of 1921, when the fours won the International event. He was also a member of the American Company of the Shanghai Volunteer Corps.

Mr. Edwards was born on March 26, 1892, at Washington D.C., his home later being in Boston, Massachusetts.. He graduated from Harvard University with the class of 1914.

In September of the same year he joined the firm of Messrs. Hayden, Stone & Co., bankers, of New York and Boston, continuing with them until June, 1916, when he enlisted in the 1st Field Artillery of the National Guard of Massachusetts for Federal Service on the Mexican Border. He served on the border at El Paso, Texas, until November, 1916, and then rejoined Messrs. Hayden, Stone & Co., for a brief time before reporting, in the spring of 1917, as a candidate at the First Officer's Training Camp, Plattsburg Barracks, New York. In August, he was commissioned as Captain, F.A.R.C., and assigned to command "B" Battery, 302d. F.A., Camp Devens, Massachusetts. In July, 1918, he sailed with them for France and from November 1 to 11, commanded the First Battery, 302d Field Artillery in the Meuse-Argonne offensive, Marcheville-St. Hilaire Sector. In April, 1919, he returned with his unit to America, was honourably discharged, and in June, 1910, accepted his commission as Major, F.A.R.C.

On August 30, 1919, Mr. Edwards married Miss Jean Chandler Lawson at Egypt, Massachusetts, and they both sailed for Shanghai in November of the same year, where Mr. Edwards joined the firm of Messrs. Andersen, Meyer, & Co., whom he had recently left in order to go into business for himself. He was a member of the American Club, the Cercle Sportif Francais and the Rowing Club, and also of the Harvard Clubs of Boston and New York, the Beverly Yacht Club of Boston, and the Military Order of Foreign Wars.

He is survived by his wife who lives at 548 Rue Ratard, his mother, Mrs. Elizabeth Morrell Edwards of Boston, Massachusetts, and one brother, Mr. John C. Edwards, who lives in France.

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SHANGHAI'S AMAZING STRIKE

Mystery Surrounding Carpenters' Action: Intimidation or a Spree?

Many curious things happen in the Far East and one of the most curious is the carpenters' strike which is now on in Shanghai. It has for the time being paralysed the joinery works of four of the biggest furniture manufacturing firms in the Settlement—Weeks & Co., Arts & Crafts, Hall & Holtz and Tai Chong—yet they have not the slightest idea what the strike is all about. There is an old-standing agreement between these firms and their workpeople. It is recognized that the men are of a superior class and they are paid as such. They do good work and they are counted as valuable, therefore it has been made clear to them that if on any occasion they consider they have a grievance, if they will only state it, they will be fairly met.

Twice previously in the last three years have the men gone out on strike, but then it was for higher pay and they got it. Now they have downed tools for no stated reason and only two suggestions can be made. One is that the men are getting too much money. They earn more than other workers of their class—up to $30 and more a month—yet with each rise they have had it has been noted that thei manner of life does not change, for they live in the same places, eat the same style of food and wear no better clothes. Therefore it is presumed that they amass money and all of a sudden decide on general jollification. This is strengthened by the fact that, when "Chinese Easter" arrived a short while ago, the local carpenters went off for a spree, though it is a holiday they have never take before.

The second suggestion is that the strike is simply a Communistic move to harass employers and show that the workers are a superior force.

Beyond the fact that no deman has been made, it is noteworth that there has been no rowdyism whatever. Whatever the original cause, the strike is petering out for on Tuesday a large number of the men voluntarily returned to work and the firms concerned are convinced that the whole situation will adjust itself if only there is no interference. They say they know their men thoroughly and how to handle them and they are convinced they can bring about a satisfactory adjustment once they learn what the trouble is.

So serious has the depreciation of China's copper coinage become that the exchange shop men of Shanghai have taken to holding meetings to consider the position. All edicts prohibiting the importation of these coins into the province have proved ineffective, so that now a dollar is worth 170 coppers.

A SHANGHAI RELIEF EFFORT

Sequel to Girl Guides' Concert

Mrs. C. E. Barham, who has had so much to do with the Girl Guides movement in Shanghai, informs us, in connexion with the concert she arranged last November to relieve three particular families believed to be living in Riga, that the committee have tried every safe means of getting the money to these people, whose names were supplied by Professor Volin, but all their efforts have proved futile. The final disappointment has come in the shape of the following letter:—

Dear Mr. Fryer,—Referring to our letter under date of December 31, I now beg to advise you that we have just received a letter from our National Headquarters, at Washington D.C., informing us that the American Relief Administration's operations do not cover Riga. We are therefore handing you herewith our cheque No. 7,332, in the amount of $136.87 U.S. currency, in refund of your remittance, receipt of which we will thank you to acknowledge. Greatly regretting we are unable to assist you further in this respect,

We remain, very respectfully,

Ashley M. Harris, Executive Secretary, China Central Committee, American Red Cross.

The committee of the concert have now decided to hand the amount realized over to Dr. MacGillivray for distribution amongst the needy Russians here and he can be relied upon to see that it goes to the proper cases.

A JOB FOR THE FIRE BRIGADE

Rescue Amid Shop Ruins

The first floor of a Chinese provision dealer's shop in Tiendong Road collapsed suddenly on Sunday afternoon, and it was at the time feared that three of the assistants had been buried in the debris. Hongkew Division of the Fire Brigade turned out, and their handy men were able to render useful assistance. Two men were rescued, one of them pinned to the shop counter under a load of packing cases and miscellaneous goods. Another was reported missing, and at some risk of a further collapse the firemen set to work to clear the wreckage in order to find him. It was discovered, however, that he had already escaped with but slight injury. The other two men were taken to hospital, but their case is not serious. The Brigade carpenters shored up the damaged floor and helped the staff to clear the stock from the ground floor.

The collapse is attributed to overloading of the first floor, and the building of an additional floor immediately beneath the roof, the strain being too great for this class of building.

MR. J. D. Clark left on Saturday for Hankow by the str. Tuckwo and expects to remain there and at Kuling for the next four months.

JUMPING COMPETITION

Mrs. J. E. Andrews and Mr. E. Edwards Successful in Interesting Tests

A second jumping competition was held at the Gordon Road Riding School on Sunday last, and, successful though the earlier one was, this was still mo so. Being a novelty for Shangha., there were many who went to the first just to look, but yesterday there was a more satisfactory entry and a big gathering of spectators. The jumping, too, was far better, for the competitors had learnt more of jumping ring tactics and had far less difficulty in negotiating the obstacles. There was less rushing, the ponies being kept in restraint and taken quietly over the various jumps.

The course was set out in more difficult order, a wall of something over 3ft. having to be taken in one corner, then diagonally across the school over a lattice hurdle, next a double bar, round at a right angle over a low lattice hurdle, another right angle to a triple bar slanting outwards, diagonally across again over a brush hurdle to the finish, which was over two 3ft. bars about 2ft. apart, really not a big jump, but one which very few ponies care to attempt.

The first competitor failed to get over the wall in the four trials allowed, but all the others got at least part of the way round, though only one managed the course without losing a single point—Mr. E. Edwards on Wild Rumour, which had been most carefully trained. Mrs. J. E. Andrews only dropped two points with Fieldfare and Mr. A. Thomson one more with Silver Wing

This was followed by a high jumping test, it being necessary to beat the previous best of 3ft. 2in. to qualify. All soon dropped out except Mrs. Andrews on Brigand and Mr H. G. Foster on Glaucus. The latter was jumping by far the higher, but superior riding skill told in the end, for, though failing once or twice, Mrs. Andrews nursed her high-spirited animal up to 3ft 6in., at which height Mr. Foster, after two failures, did the very worst thing by rushing his pony round the ring at a stiff gallop and charging at the bar, which Glaucus scarcely attempted to top The clever lady was loudly applauded for her fine work.

The competitors were:—Brigand and Fieldfare (Mrs. J. E. Andrews), Silver Wing and Allsopps (Mr. A. Thomson), Wild Rumour and Denis (Mr. E. Edwards), Ginger (Mr. H. K. Strachan), Cumberland (Mr. B. Cheetham), Sui Pien (Mr. F. S. Gibbings) and Glaucus (Mr. H. G. Foster.)

ALL the material for the Shanghai-Woosung telephone service is reported to have arrived, and it is expected that work will be started during the next few weeks in the laying of the line. The promoters of the enterprise hope to have the service in operation before next winter.

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BANQUE INDUSTRIELLE

Proposal for Its Dissolution

Paris, May 18.

The Tribunal of Commerce is considering the application of two shareholders for the dissolution of the Banque Industrielle de Chine on the ground that the Bank lost three-quarters of its capital, namely, Frs. 112,000,000, out of Frs. 150,000,000.

The shareholders' counsel contended that, in order to balance the liabilities, amounting to over Frs. 1,000,000,000, it was necessary to include in the assets valueless elements and Frs. 400,000,000 of irrecoverable debts.

The Bank's counsel replied that the applicants had no interest in obtaining a dissolution. Moreover, he added, the losses did not amount to over three-quarters of the capital.

Judgement has been reserved.—Reuter's Special Service.

EAST ASIATIC Co., Ld.

(Aktieselskabet Det Ostasiatiske Kompagni),

COPENHAGEN

TO THE EAST.

Japan Line:
Sailings from COPENHAGEN, GOTHENBURG, CHRISTIANIA, HAMBURG and ANTWERP to HONGKONG, SHANGHAI, KOBE, YOKOHAMA, DALNY and VLADIVOSTOCK.

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Sailings from COPENHAGEN, GOTHENBURG, CHRISTIANIA and HAMBURG to BATAVIA, SAMARANG and SOERABAYA.

TO SOUTH AFRICA.

Sailings from DENMARK, NORWAY, SWEDEN and BALTIC PORTS to CAPE TOWN, ALGOA BAY, EAST LONDON, DURBAN, DELAGOA BAY and BEIRA.

TO AUSTRALIA.

Sailings from DENMARK, NORWAY, SWEDEN, ANTWERP, LISBON and GENOA to FREMANTLE, ADELAIDE, MELBOURNE, SYDNEY and BRISBANE.

TO NORTH PACIFIC.

Sailings from COPENHAGEN, GOTHENBURG, CHRISTIANIA, HAMBURG and ANTWERP to ST. THOMAS (with transhipment to WINDWARD and LEEWARD ISLANDS, PORTO RICO, STO. DOMINGO and HAITI), CRISTOBAL and BALBOA (with transhipment to CENTRAL AMERICAN PORTS), SAN PEDRO, SAN FRANCISCO, PORTLAND (Ore.), SEATTLE, TACOMA, VANCOUVER and VICTORIA.

TO SOUTH PACIFIC.

Sailings from COPENHAGEN, GOTHENBURG, CHRISTIANIA, HAMBURG and ANTWERP to ST. THOMAS (with transhipment to WINDWARD and LEEWARD ISLANDS, PORTO RICO, STO. DOMINGO and HAITI), CRISTOBAL and BALBOA (with transhipment to CENTRAL AMERICAN PORTS), GUAYAQUIL, CALLAO, MOLLENDO, IQUIQUE, ANTOFAGASTA, VALPARAISO, TALCAHUANO and CORRAL.

TO CUBA AND MEXICO.

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CORRESPONDENCE

AMUNDSEN'S POLAR EXPEDITION.

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—"Penguin's" letter in yesterday's issue of your paper drew my attention to your leaderette commenting on Amundsen's contemplated expedition to the North Pole. I am not writing to endorse "Penguin's" views: Scott wrote from his very last camping place when dying from exhaustion: "Every detail of equipment is right." And who would gainsay him? Even if he had been wrong in his judgement all argument is hushed by the lofty manner in which he paid the penalty and criticism would be ungracious in the face of so noble an atonement.

I think, however, that your own comments on Amundsen's contemplated expedition are also out of place, that they are unjustified and unkind. Whatever hyperbole is contained in the message to which you refer, I am sure Amundsen is not responsible for it. If you had read his books, if you had heard his lectures, if you could talk to his companions, or if you knew the man you would realize how much you wrong him. He is the most modest of men who shuns the limelight and all manner of popular demonstration. It is typical of him that he, during his recent visit to Norway, arrived unannounced and unknown, registered in the passenger list as "Mr. Johnson of New York," thereby hoping to avoid all fuss and all demonstration. Only his two brothers and his most intimate friends knew of his visit and not till he boarded the steamer which was to take him back to America did the reporters detect him. Amundsen at all times submerges his personality in his task and on all occasions gives more than a full share of credit for any achievement to his companions. On board his ship he does not shirk taking part in the humblest work: during his last expedition through the Northeast Passage he personally did the cooking for the whole party during a protracted period when he, as a result of a tuzzle with a polar bear, was unable to perform his ordinary duties, and because he, by turning cook, relieved one man for other useful work. He disliked his self-appointed task strongly but stuck to it till he was well enough to undertake again his more essential and more congenial work.

THE MISUNDERSTANDING.

The misunderstanding of Amundsen is caused by the very natural bitterness felt in England at the time of Scott's death. The news of Amundsen's expedition and success struck an inevitably jarring note in the anguish of the nation mourning the loss, in circumstances of grandeur and pathos, of a hero whose messages from his icy deathbed, reverberate to this day. That a resentment should be felt at the time against Amundsen is but human and forgiveable, but now, so many years later, this resentment should not be allowed to cast a shadow on Amundsen's character even if his achievements are belittled.

In your comments you make it appear that Amundsen when Peary had forestalled him at the North Pole, for this reason changed his plans and turned his eyes to the South Pole thereby butting in on Scott's territory. This is wrong. Amundsen's greatest ambition, his life task as he saw it, was to explore the Arctic regions, to drift across the polar ice field on the current whose existence Nansen had proved. The Pole itself was a mere incident in his plans and his ambitions were not lessened nor his ardour quelled by Peary's prior discovery of the actual pole—not any more than Scott himself would have given up his expedition if Amundsen had reached the South Pole a year earlier. Men who are prepared to isolate themselves for years, ready to suffer hardships such as polar expeditions bring with them, prepared to meet death at any moment, have bigger aims than that of setting records and in this respect Amundsen is as true an explorer as any.

His one aim is to add a few pages to the Book of Knowledge. He has spent his whole life in exploring or in preparing for further exploration. He has entirely cut himself off from family life and all the softer influences, he has only one aim and one ambition—to complete his work in polar regions. If he waxes eloquent in the new hope he now sees of being able to enlarge the scope of his expedition through the new means, science of aviation stretches out to him, it is only due to his enthusiasm and to no vainglorious pirit. As early as 1896 he was a member of the Belgica expedition and on his return he set himself the task of seeking a passage north of America from the Atlantic to the Pacific. With the modest means at his disposal he set out with a few companions in a small and comfortless 60 tons schooner and successfully discovered and sailed through the Northwest Passage. The world did not ring with his name at the time nor had the discovery any practical or commercial value but scientists knew that he had added a few valuable pages to their beloved book.

THE SOUTH POLE DASH.

On his return he began at once to prepare for his more ambitious plan of exploring the Arctic. The government placed Nansen's old ship Fram at his disposal but Amundsen knew that the Fram was getting old and hardly fit for another long fight against polar storms in the tight grip of the ice. He also soon found that he could not hope to raise enough funds for a new ship and for equipment such as he would require for an expedition which might last seven years. It was then he decided to make a dash for the South Pole

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for which shorter expedition he felt that his ship and his outfit might serve. He knew that if he succeeded in reaching the South Pole he would attract sufficient popular attention to enable him to collect the funds he required for his larger task. That Scott was also going he could not allow to interfere with the plan of his life, and the Anarctic regions, he felt, were large enough for more than one simultaneous expedition.

He succeeded as everyone knows and lost no time in turning his success into hard cash for his real expedition. He had calculated correctly. Popular sentiment had been aroused and from both private and public sources the necessary funds were readily contributed. His dash to the South Pole is therefore merely another proof of his tenacity of purpose, of his indomitable spirit, and not a proof of an unsportsmanlike character or underhand rivalry. Had Scott been alive he would have shaken hands with Amundsen in the knowledge that they both served the same great master, Science, that they had both the same great aim whether it was to be souhgt in the north or the south.

Amundsen had to set about designing and constructing a new ship as the Fram had to be condemned. The war delayed completion of the ship and the equipment of the expedition. Hence his late start. For three years his new ship Maud has now been in the polar regions, in the course of which it has sailed through the Northeast Passage, first discovered by Nordenskjold. After these three years it was found necessary to refit the expedition and that is now taking place and Amundsen is ready once more to start on his seven years drift through the polar ice.

A TRUE EXPLORER.

Having discovered the Northwest Passage and the South Pole, having sailed through the Northeast Passage Amundsen could, if popular achievement were his aim or the setting of records his ambition, rest on his laureles. When he at the age of 52 sets out for the allready discovered North Pole on a seven years' drift through the polar night, it is, I think, but fair to credit him with loftier aims than those of self-aggrandizement. He surely bears the marks of the true explorer for whom achievement itself is the goal and not the empty glory resulting from achievement. He is at his age fully aware that he may not return to share in the glory. It is therefore unkind, comfortably ensconced in one's office chair, to belittle the man who has spent his life in an arduous endeavour to enlarge knowledge and who, at 52, sets out for the second time to fulfil his life-task, to seek the realization of his boyhood's dream and the determined resolve of his manhood.

Amundsen has through his character and through his achievements become a national hero, without himself wishing this, and as a Norwegian I cannot therefore see his name belittled or his motives besmirched without raising a feeble voice in his defence.

I am, etc.,
E. TOLLEFSEN.

Nanking, May 11.

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—It is some time since I read Raold Amundsen's book "The South Pole," but I think I am correct in stating the following:—

(1) Whatever may have been Scott's other aims, it was well known before he sailed that one of them was to reach the South Pole.

(2) There is no doubt that Amundsen's chief objective was the same.

(3) Amundsen's principal reason for keeping his objective dark, until he left Funchal was to prevent delay (through interference with his plans) by the financiers of his expedition, who had given their support to his expressed project of *northern* exploration.

(4) This secrecy prevented Scott from knowing anything about the Norwegian Expedition, until the "Fram" was discovered, quite by accident, by one of his lieutenants in the Bay of Whales, when Scott's plans had already gone too far to justify a re-adjustment.

It seems a pity to have to state it in plain language, but, to all intents and purposes, Amundsen was racing Scott without the latter's knowledge, which procedure (no matter what his "hard cash" motives may have been) may be called "not fair."

Amundsen also committed an error of taste when he re-named the South Polar Plateau, which Shackleton had already discovered and named.

It is admitted that the above are but spots in the sun of Amundsen's glory, but they are hard to forget.

Please consider yourself at liberty to communicate my name to Mr. Tollefsen if he desires it.

Enclosing my card,

I am, etc.,
W. C. T.

Shanghai, May 15, 1922.

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—W. C. T. letter yesterday is unfair, containing such "errors of taste," that it ought to be corrected.

1. W. C. T. seems to insinuate that Amundsen was hiding, and is of the opinion that he ought to have informed Scott that there was going to be a competition, so that they could have a regular "race" from the ice barrier to the pole. Even if this had been arranged in a way Amundsen would have won, everybody who has read the story of these two expeditions, will acknowledge.

2. The "race" however did not start at the barrier at all but at home in London and Christiania, where the two men began to plan their great undertaking.

3. Besides, a "race" to the pole is indeed very dangerous, and there is no time to spare racing death, so whether Amundsen and Scott knew of each other or not, would not affect their speed. When a man does his utmost he cannot do any more competition or not!

4. Another thing: Scott as well as Amundsen knew that they had to start as early in the spring as possible, as any delay might be fatal, and both men therefore started as early as circumstances would permit, competition or no competition.

5. These things Amundsen knew, and that is probably why he did not inform Scott even if he had been able to

There is just as much honour due to Scott as to Amundsen, in having reached the pole, Scott having, by far, greater odds against him, There is not a blemish on Amundsen's shield, in spite of certain "sportsmen's biassed opinion."

I am, etc.,
E. J. MULLER.

Shanghai, May 17, 1922.

THE BANK RATE.

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—I read with interest your leader in this morning's paper on the successful flotation of Municipal Debentures at 7 per cent., and it appears to me that as the Bank of England has lowered its rate of interest to 4½ per cent., it is about time the local banks considered the advisability of reducing their rate of 8 per cent. on overdrafts to a more reasonable figure. It would surely be a great boon to merchants, who have been struggling along for some considerable time against adverse trade, if some reduction in the rate were made.

I am, etc.,
BRITISH MERCHANT.

Shanghai, May 11, 1922.

FIRE INSURANCE.

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—With reference to C.A.B.'s letter of the 12th and a similar one in your issue of to-day, in both of which he presumes that insurance companies would refuse to pay compensation on the ground that the premises are of old construction, it may be that the local branches of the large insurance offices in Shanghai feel it to be a work of supererogation to reply through the columns of your paper.

I would inform your correspondent that any first class office, in Shanghai or any other place, would not hesitate to pay a claim on an old building in case of loss. A certain percentage, fixed by an assessor, would, however, be deducted in proportion to the age of the building.

I am, etc.,
INSURANCE.

Shanghai, May 15, 1922.

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A QUERY FOR DOG LOVERS.

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—May I trespass on your valued space to inquire if any of your readers can advise me as to a sure preventive against fleas and ticks in dogs during the hot months. My dog is a red setter and every care is taken in the way of frequent baths and plentiful use of strong carbolic dog-soap but the fleas appear to fatten on such treatment. Is there any liquid wash of any kind which has been used with success. Strong soaps though successful at home have little or no effect here. It is unnecessary to add that any remedy suggested must be of such a nature as to have no damaging effect on the dog's coat.

I am, etc.,
"N."

Shanghai, May 13.

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—"N" might let his dog sleep on a well-used horse-cover. Dog-fleas seem to dislike the odour of horse-perspiration and I have heard this is a sure way of getting rid of the pests.

I know no preventive against ticks, and my dogs seem to have had none so far. If they should, the end of a burning cigarette applied against the body of the tick, and when he drops the heel of a shoe is the best way of destroying them.

I am, etc.,
DOG LOVER.

Shanghai, May 15.

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—In the first place destroy all bedding and replace with wood shavings.

If the dog uses a kennel, close kennel up (after taking the dog out) and burn flowers of sulphur inside. Open it after 20 minutes and wash out carefully with a strong solution of carbolic.

At the same time dissolve 1 oz. sulphurated potash in 1 pt. boiling water. Add this when ready to two gallons warm water. Soak the dog's coat in it.

Afterwards wash him in a solution of one part paraffin to four parts milk.

Both baths to be repeated once a week till cured.

I am, etc.,
WELL DOG.

Shanghai, May 16, 1922.

A JEWISH CO. S.V.C.

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—I have read with much interest the several articles on the different companies of the Shanghai Volunteers which have lately appeared in your valued columns. From these articles one gained the impression that after all there is quite a lot of real unselfishness among the motley inhabitants of our Model Settlement.

What I was, however, greatly surprised at was the fact that Shanghai with its big Jewish population should have no company of solely Jewish volunteers. The Jewish youth here is as keen to volunteer as the next and the success of a Jewish company, were it formed, would be assured. As soldiers our young men left their names indelibly on the roll of honour of every nation that was engaged in the great war. Open tribute by the most famous of living statesmen has been paid to the unselfish manner in which the members of our race laid down their lives for God, King and Country above and before anything else.

Could not we do the same here in Shanghai? I most emphatically say 'yes we could' and I trust that this letter will awake the spirit in every young man who professes the Jewish faith in this town.

I am, etc.,
J. BLACKMANN.

Shanghai, May 16, 1922.

THE U. S. COURT.

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—In August last year, the Judge of the U. S. Court for China left for his native land on a "holiday" on the understanding that he would be back in three months. The latest news to hand is that he is still in Washington waiting for the Chief Executive's decision before returning to Shanghai. Meanwhile, the cases in the local American Court are piling up sky-high with no immediate prospects for the parties involved.

The present writer is interested in the present situation. In the first week of August last, he had filed a petition in the U. S. Court for a claim exceeding $2,000 against a local firm of some standing and had the case been heard immediately the chances are that he would have secured judgement and had the claim made good. The delay, however, has gone against him. The firm in question has suffered losses and gone out of business and is now practically bankrupt. Consequently, I had no other alternative but to withdraw my case from the Court and say good-bye to my claim. I am told that this is not an isolated case. Several other cases are being affected similarly. And yet Washington is immovable! It is a puzzle to us how a great and civilized power like America can afford to be tardy in her administration of justice. What effect this will have or is having on the Celestial is not hard to conjecture! Americans! Wake up!

I am, etc.,
ONE WHO IS STILL INTERESTED.

Shanghai, May 18, 1922.

COMPANY MEETINGS

THE KAPALA ISLANDS ESTATES

Ninth Annual Meeting

Mr. G. Grayrigge presided at the ninth annual meeting of the Kapala Islands Estates, Ld. (1912), held on Monday at the offices of the secretaries and general managers, No. 2 Canton Road. Among those present were Mr. R. N. Truman and Mr. C. R. Burkill (directors) and Mr. E. A. Prince, representing the general managers. The attendance represented 117,785 shares.

The secretary (Mr. Prince) having read the notice convening the meeting and the auditors' report, the Chairman said in part:

The depressed condition of the rubber market during the past year accentuated to the point of hopelessness the financial position of this company. Despite the most rigid economy, the Dutch company working account shows a further loss of Tls. 23,326.39. which added to the loss incurred previously makes a total deficit of Tls. 52,390.30 whilst the Shanghai company's adverse balance has been increased by Tls. 24,233.58, this sum representing Shanghai office expenses, directors' and auditors' fees, and debenture interest, bringing up the amount standing to the debit of profit and loss account to Tls. 103,795.79.

The total amount of debentures issued is Tls. 164,500.

The property is reported to be perfectly clean and is remarkably free from disease. The labour force has been reduced to the lowest point possible. The cost of production was reduced from 26.22d. in 1920, which high figure, as you know, was due to the influenza epidemic decimating the labour force, to 16.16d. in 1921, a huge reduction relatively, but as the average nett selling price for all grades was only 7.66d. the property is still far from being a satisfactory proposition these days. The estimate of output for 1922 is given as 140,000 lb. to cost 41.17 cents Straits currency per lb. f.o.b. If this estimate is lived up to and granted the company was not overwhelmed with a debenture issue carrying heavy interest, a reasonable rise in the selling price might make the property worth perserving with, but as matters now stand this board sees no prospect of the company ever getting on to its legs again, and as going on only means increasing the indebtedness, in all fairness to the gentleman who has been financing the company, this board has decided to bring matters to a head, which will be done at the extraordinary general meeting convened for this afternoon.

Gentlemen, despite the present unsatisfactory financial position, I feel that we should nevertheless express our thanks to the manager and Straits agents who have done their best under very trying cir-

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cumstances, and also to our secretaries and general managers, Messrs. A. R. Burkill & Sons, for their efficient conduct of the Company's affairs.

Formal resolutions were then carried.

EXTRAORDINARY MEETING

Winding Up Resolution

At 4.15 p.m. the meeting was followed by an extraordinary general meeting, at which Mr. G. Grayrigge again took the chair. He said:—

Gentlemen,—At the annual meeting just held, I gave you an outline of the company's financial position.

As you know well, for a considerable period this company, having exhausted all its capital, to carry on, incurred an overdraft at its bankers which was guaranteed by Mr. E. S. Kadoorie. The time came when owing to this gentleman's departure from Shanghai for an indefinite period, due steps had to be taken to safeguard his interests and this safeguard took the form of debentures bearing 12 per cent. interest. These debentures were offered to all registered shareholders, but met with no response. Of these debentures to the end of the last financial year, Tls. 164,500 were issued. The interest outstanding at the same date was Tls. 18,601, which the company is unable to pay, and which amount has of course since been augmented.

With the present low price of rubber, your directors see no prospect ahead of paying interest, let alone redeeming the debentures, and are convinced that carrying on only means increasing the load of debt. The estimated expenses for the estate for 1922 are S.$57,635. If you add to this, Shanghai expenses of almost Tls. 6,000 plus interest on debentures, and compare same with what might be the proceeds of a crop estimated at 140,000 lb., I think you will agree that your directors' decision to bring matters to a head is fully justified.

I now beg to propose the extraordinary resolution, viz:—

That it has been proved to the satisfaction of this meeting that the company cannot by reason of its liabilities continue its business and that it is advisable to wind up the same and accordingly that the company be wound up voluntarily and that Mr. Eric Arnold Prince, of Shanghai, be and he is hereby appointed liquidator for the purposes of such winding up.—Proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Mr. R. N. Truman.

THE "Nagasaki Press" learns that the Japanese Government has decided to grant a subsidy of Y.350,000 for the Nippon Yusen Kaisha's express service between Nagasaki and Shanghai, which will be opened at the end of this year. The steamship company, however, anticipates a loss of at least a million yen a year and has requested the Government to increase the subsidy to Y.700,000.

THE FAR EASTERN INSURANCE CO.

Annual Meeting

The sixth ordinary general meeting of shareholders in the Far Eastern Insurance Co., Ld., was held on Tuesday afternoon at the Yangtsze Insurance Building, Mr. E. T Byrne presiding. The other directors present were Messrs. V. Meyer, H. M. Tibbey and P. H. Nye, with Mr. C. M. G. Burnie, General Manager.

34,895 shares were represented.

The Chairman said in part:—

The report and accounts to December 31, 1921, have been in your hands for some days and, with your permission, we will take them as read. The working account for 1920 and former years shows a balance at credit of Tls. 238,099.62. There are considerable liabilities outstanding on 1920 account, and consequently your Directors recommend that this balance be carried forward.

The working account for 1921 shows an increase in net premium income from Tls. 676,147.02 in 1920 to Tls. 1,033,586.40. The revenue from interest, etc. amounts to Tls. 102,533.11 as compared with Tls. 74,931.34. Claims paid amount to Tls. 582,162.45 against Tls. 252,-166.96 The ratio of losses to premium income is very much higher than in any previous year of the company's existence. There is also a large increase in commissions and charges, due principally to the growth of our fire business in which higher commissions are paid than in marine business.

The expansion in our figures is due to a pooling agreement with the Yangtsze Insurance Association, Ld., which came into force as from January 1, 1921. This agreement was proposed by the Association in the anticipation that they would acquire during 1921 a large majority of the shares of The Far Eastern Insurance Company, Ld., in exchange for a similar number of shares of the Association plus a cash payment of Tls. 5 per share. This anticipation was realized and the Association is now the registered holder of more than 90 per cent. of the shares of this company. The effect of this pooling agreement is that each company participates in all the risks underwritten by either company and the necessity for cumbersome reinsurance arrangements is dispensed with.

The balance at credit of 1921 account is Tls. 446,175.79.

Your Directors recommend that a dividend at 6 per cent. be paid absorbing Tls. 43,200 and that the remaining Tls. 402,975.79 be carried forward.

Investments have been valued at their market value as at December 31, 1921, and the rates of exchange current at that date have been taken for the conversion of other currencies into sterling.

Turning to the balance sheet you will notice that our total assets have increased by about Tls. 113,000 to Tls. 1,466,582.16. Sundry debtors stand at Tls. 431,931.15 as against Tls. 147,868.62. Our principal debtor is the Yangtsze Insurance Association, Ld., which by reason of the operation of the pool agreement owed us on balance at the close of the year rather less than Tls. 400,000. At first sight it would appear that this balance calls for an adjustment in cash. This figure, however, represents no more than the Far Eastern's fair proportion of the balances owing by the agencies of the Association. A moderate sum by way of interest may be found to be due by the Association to the Company and this matter is receiving the attention of our auditors.

As you are aware business generally remains in a depressed condition with the inevitable result that insurance losses are heavy. So long as this state of affairs continues, we must aim to husband our resources so that we shall be able to participate adequately when business improves and underwriting is more likely to result in a profit.

The formal resolutions were then passed.

YANGTSZE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION

Annual Meeting of Shareholders: Review of the Year's Work

20 PER CENT DIVIDEND

The 32nd ordinary general meeting of shareholders in the Yangtsze Insurance Association Ld., was held on Tuesday afternoon. Mr. John Prentice presided, supported by Messrs. Brodie A. Clarke, A. W. Burkill, A. Howard and R. W. Robertson (directors) and C. M. G. Burnie, General Manager, and there was an attendance representing 72,617 shares.

The Chairman said in part.—

Working account 1920 and former years:—This account shows a balance at credit of $2,653,879.56 and the directors recommend that the whole of this amount be carried forward. It should prove amply sufficient to liquidate our outstanding liabilities on past years' accounts.

Working account 1921:—Our net premium income is $3,534,304.42 as against $4,301,428.01 in 1920. The actual decrease is, however, not so large as would appear. In the anticipation that the offer, made last year to shareholders of the Far Eastern Insurance Company, Ld., to exchange their shares for shares of the Association, would be accepted by a large majority of the shareholders, the business of the two companies is now pooled, under an agreement which came into force as from January 1, 1921. The result of the institution of this pooling agreement, which automatically gives each company a share of all the risks written by either company, thereby eliminating the necessity of cumbersome reinsurance arrangements, has been to decrease the net premium of the Association and to increase that of

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the Far Eastern Company. As the Association owns more than 90 per cent. of the shares of the Far Eastern Company no actual loss of revenue is involved to the Association. The net premium incomes of the Association and the Far Eastern Company in 1920 were respectively $4,301,428.01 and $926,228.79 (Tls. 676,147.02 at ex. 73) totalling $5,227,656.80, whereas in 1921 the corresponding figures were $3,534,-304.42 and $1,415,871.78 (Tls. 1,033,-586.40 at ex. 73) totalling $4,950,-176.20. The aggregate net premium income of the two companies in 1921 is thus $277,480.60 less than in 1920.

Our revenue from interest, dividends and rents, $597,020, is practically the same as in the previous year.

HEAVY FIRST YEAR'S SETTLEMENT.

On the other side of this account, net claims paid amount to $1,865,820.45. This is a very heavy first year's settlement and the percentage to premium income is much above the average of recent years. Commissions and charges which are this year shown separately amount to $806,302.33 as against against $604,485.59 last year. Commissions are higher by reason of the increase in our fire business which involves a higher rate of Commission than marine business. The increase in charges is due principally to the fall in exchange. The balance at credit of working account is $1,814,421.55.

The Directors recommend that a dividend of 20 per cent. be paid out of the balance of this account, and if you adopt this proposal there will be a balance of $1,515,-721.55 to carry forward.

The rates of exchange ruling on December 31, 1921 have been adopted for the conversion of our gold investments and funds into silver. Investments have been valued at their market value as at December 31, 1921. Our investments show a substantial advance in value since December 31, 1920.

You have already been informed of our amalgamation of interests with the Far Eastern Insurance Company, Ld. The Association is now the registered holder of 33,685 shares (out of a total issue of 36,000 shares) of the Far Eastern Insurance Company Ld., and 29,350 shares of the Association have been issued to shareholders of the Far Eastern Insurance Company, Ld. The apparent discrepancy is explained by the fact that Association was itself a shareholder in the company prior to making an offer for the acquisition of the company's shares and no shares have been issued in exchange for the shares so held. The paid up capital of the Association is now $1,493,500 represented by 149,350 shares fully paid up. It is not anticipated that any further shares of the Far Eastern Company will now be offered to the Association for exchange and in any case the offer to the Company's shareholders is no longer open. Of the shares authorized to be issued to "Far Eastern" shareholders but not so issued the directors now propose to ask your authority to issue 650 shares as they may determine in order to bring the paid up capital of the Association to a round figure of $1,500,000. I am proposing a resolution to this effect later on during the meeting.

Balance sheet. The shares of the Far Eastern Insurance Company, Ld., acquired by the Association stand in our books at their par value and the item of $304,308.20 appearing in the ballance sheet under the heading of "Premium on 28,850 shares exchanged for shares of the Far Eastern Insurance Co. Ld." represents the difference between the par values of the respective shares less the cash payment of Tls. 5 per share. Five hundred further shares have been exchanged since December 31, 1921 and the actual amount now standing to the credit of premium on shares account is $309,582.17.

As the result of the fall in exchange during 1921 and the appreciation of various investments there has been an accretion to investment and exchange fluctuation account of $1,041,731.09.

STERLING REINSURANCE FUND.

Out of these two items the directors propose, with your approval to create a sterling reinsurance fund of £100,000 which at current exchange as at December 31, 1921 will absorb $801,871.03, and to leave the balance at credit of investment and exchange fluctuation account. A considerable portion of our business is transacted in gold and a considerable portion of our assets is invested in gold securities. We have considerable gold liabilities, but up to the present all our liabilities have been stated in silver. Our figures are therefore much affected by a rise or fall in exchange. If our gold and silver assets could be balanced by corresponding gold and silver liabilities we would be independent of exchange fluctuation. The creation of sterling reinsurance fund will be a step in this direction and our gold assets will be independent of exchange fluctuation to the extent of the amount placed to sterling reinsurance fund.

If you adopt the proposal to this effect which will be placed before you later, the balance remaining to the credit of investment and exchange fluctuation account will be, as stated in the report, $544,168.26. It will actually be somewhat more as the premium on the 500 shares issued since December 31, 1921 to which I have already referred will be utilized in the creation of the sterling reinsurance fund. The above figure protects us against a fairly considerable rise in exchange. If no part of it is required to meet depreciation in investments, our investment and exchange fluctuation account will only disappear from our balance sheet if exchange rises to say 4/8 for sterling and 98 for Gold Dollars.

On the assets side of our balance sheet our investments in gold securities are, as usual, set out in detail. A list of our silver investments in debentures and shares is on the table for the inspection of any shareholders desiring to see it.

Severe competition and dull trade continue to render the transaction of marine and fire insurance business extremely difficult. Your directors consider that in the circumstances our resources must be conserved as far as possible until the cycle of lean years is succeeded by more prosperous times when an increased distribution to shareholders may be possible without impairing our financial position. They feel sure that their views will receive the support of shareholders generally.

Your directors wish to record their appreciation of the good work done during these anxious times by the general manager and the staff of the association and as a tangible mark of their appreciation, I intend to put a resolution before you proposing the payment to them of a bonus not exceeding 20 per cent. on their salaries.

The formal resolutions being carried, the Chairman said:—

I now come to the resolution, which has appeared in the newspapers fod several days, authorizing the directors to issue 650 shares of the Association, as they may determine, thus bringing the paid up capital of the Association to a round figure of $1,500,000. I have already explained how these shares are available and our object in issuing them. I now propose and Mr. R. W. Robertson seconds:

That the directors be and they are hereby authorized to issue out of the balance unissued of 36,000 shares (the issue whereof for the purpose of allotting the same to shareholders in the Far Eastern Insurance Company, Ld., was authorized by resolution passed at the ordinary general meeting of shareholders of the Association held on May 19, 1921) 650 fully paid shares of the nominal value of $10 each and as the directors shall determine so as to make the paid up capital of the Association amount to the sum of $1,500,000.

The resolution was unanimously carried.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO., LD.

Annual General Meeting

The 26th ordinary general meeting of Lane, Crawford and Co., Ld., was held on Thursday afternoon, Mr. James Ambrose presided, supported by Messrs. D. W. Crawford, E. H. Dunning, R. J. Bowerman (directors), J. E. Lucas (secretary), and other shareholders representing 1,624 shares.

The Chairman said in part.—

Your directors have much pleasure in again presenting to you what is, in their opinion, such a satisfactory result of the year's working, and I trust you are all of the same opinion.

The balance of working account is $128,116.16 against $119,-350.25 last year or an increase of $2,765.01.

Land and buildings in the Nanking Road still stand in our Books at $330,000, and it is not proposed to reduce this item below that figure, your Directors being of the opinion—and I think you all will

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agree—that this amount is considerably less than the value of the property.

Our debenture issue of Tls. 240,000, on the security of the aforesaid land and buildings is unchanged.

Furniture and fixtures stand in the balance sheet at $18,141.31 as against $12,310.75 last year, but you will notice that during the year $10,850.56 have been expended on these. We look for a very considerable increase to this item during the current year, due to the proposed new front which we hope will be commenced during the next week or two.

Our stocks, which have been very carefully checked, stand at $614,417.49 as against $562,987.09 last year, or an increase of $51,430.40.

In all of our departments the stock has been valued on most conservative lines, and though the total amount is a large one, your Directors consider that with our increased turnover during the year it is only commensurate with the business we are doing.

SELLING PRICES REDUCED.

In this connexion I wish to draw your attention to the fact that during 1919 we wrote down our stocks to the extent of $100,000 which amount was taken from our stock reserve account, and during 1921 stocks were again written down by $20,000 from the same reserve, or $120,000 in all since 1919, and we have thus been able to reduce our selling prices in spite of the highly inflated Home prices of the years 1918 to 1921, and so provided our customers with goods at reasonable and purchaseable prices.

It will I think be clear to you all that our customers have received the entire benefit of this reduction and the result of the year's working seems to show that our policy has been appreciated by them, and to such an extent as to enable us to continue paying a steady and substantial dividend to our shareholders.

DISTRIBUTION OF PROFITS.

Stock reserve.—We are proposing to allocate to this out of the profits of the year $30,000, when this item will then stand at $50,000, and to building reserve it is proposed to allocate $40,000, thereby bringing it up to $70,000, and your Directors trust they have your approval to both of these proposed increases.

Bank overdraft stands at $244,310.86 or an increase during the year of $98,907.88 due to the increase in our stocks and to various payments made on capital account.

Sundry debtors stand at $167,925.02 or an increase of $12,524.92, which is accounted for by our largely increased turn-over during the year.

The accounts have been thoroughly and closely examined, and all those of a doubtful character have been written off, those remaining being considered absolutely sound.

General reserve remains unchanged at $150,000.

Investment account now stands at $5,248.46, a slight increase over last year, and a list of the investments can be seen by any shareholder, who wishes to do so.

You will see from the report that the balance at credit of profit and loss account, which includes $16,147.58 brought forward from last year, amounts to $110,060.85, which it is proposed to deal with as follows:—

To pay a dividend of 10 per cent. for the year, which absorbs $25,000, transfer to building reserve $40,000, transfer to stock reserve $30,000, and to carry forward to new account $15,060.85.

This, Gentlemen, is all I have to say in connexion with the report and accounts now before you, but I will endeavour to answer any questions shareholders may have to ask respecting them.

The formal resolutions were then carried.

CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

CLAY PIGEON CLUB

A New Handicapping System Approved by Members at the Annual Meeting

Mr. J. Ambrose (the President) occupied the chair at the annuall meeting of the Shanghai Clay Pigeon Club, held at the Shanghai Club, on Monday. He was supported by Messrs. H. H. Read (Vice-President), W. G. Pirie, K. J. McEuen, H. E. Gibson, T. H. U. Aldridge (committee) and A. P. Nazer (honorary secretary and treasurer). About 20 members were also present.

The chairman mentioned that the satisfactory state of the club's finances was due to the generosity of the two old clubs, the Shanghai Gun Club and the Clay Pigeon Club, which, on closing down, handed over the balance of their funds and securities. A consignment of cartridges had already arrived, some clay birds were on the way out and the pavilion, which was so badly damaged by the typhoon last season, would shortly be in such a condition that at least the rain would be kept out. Some Foochow traps were also on order. They had to thank Mr. T. E. Doremus for the birds which were arriving and the committee also wished to thank the donors of prizes and Mr. A. E. Stewart, not only for auditing the accounts, but for having agreed to take on the duties of secretary and treasurer which Mr. A. P. Nazer was compelled to relinquish owing to pressure of business.

The report and accounts were adopted and the following elections made:—Committee, Messrs. W. G. Pirie, K. J. McEuen, H. E. Gibson, A. P. Nazer and T. H. U. Aldridge. Ballotting Committee, Messrs. R. F. C. Master, T. E. Daremus, N. E. Moller, W. J. Gande and the general committee. Honorary secretary and treasurer, Mr. A. E. Stewart.

It was decided that shooting should start next Sunday.

Mr. H. H. Read brought up the question of handicaps. He said that under the system in force a man, starting the season badly, might get a big handicap which would last him through four shoots and, if he returned to his usual form, he might very well win three or four competitions. With the idea of bringing every man to within about two shoots of his proper form and reducing the possibilities of a tie, he suggested that there should be a maximum allowance to which a man was entitled on his previous season's average, but not to exceed 30 per cent., the season to be commenced on this allowance. After firing at 100 birds, the handicap should be based on the number broken and after each shoot a fresh handicap should be made on the average of the last 100 birds fired at.

Mr. A. P. Nazer said he agreed with this proposal. It had always been difficult to work out the handicaps and Mr. Read's idea was really handicapping a man on his shooting of the moment.

The proposal was adopted.

Mr. A. W. Hexamer, who had taken charge of a formula for making birds which Mr. Doremus had given to the club, said they had met with a difficulty owing to the tar obtained in Shanghai being too soft, but experiments were being carried on with progressive improvements and he thought in another month they might get the birds right. If they succeeded it would save a lot of expense and trouble.

Mr. W. J. Gande said that they had been making their own birds for years at Hankow and he thought they might get in touch with the people there.

The meeting closed with cordial votes of thanks to Mr. Nazer for his work on behalf of the club and to the chairman.

THE news was received yesterday that the Chinese Government has conferred upon Sir Edward Pearce the 4th class order of the Chiaho, and upon this addition to his recent honours the community will join us in congratulating him. It is a well-merited recognition of service, and a realization that Sir Edward's work has been as much in the interests of the Chinese populace as of the foreign.

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SPORT

LAWN BOWLS

S. L. B. C. Formal Opening

The formal opening of the Shanghai Lawn Bowls Club took place on Saturday afternoon in the presence of a large number of members and friends, including Sir Edward Pearce, Mr. C. M. Bain, President of the Club, and Mrs. Bain, Mr. and Mrs. H. G. Simms, Lt.-Col. Trueman, O.B.E., and Mrs. Trueman, Mrs. Bond, Mr. John Prentice, Mr. B. A. Clarke, and Major and Mrs. Grierson.

The members having assembled Col. Trueman said that as it was the opening day of the season's play, the Committee had decided that it was an occasion deserving of a suitable ceremony, and asked Mrs. Bain to declare the rinks open for play.

Mrs. Bain then opened the rinks by rolling a silver jack up amid applause.

After thanking the Club and its Committee and those present on behalf of Mrs. Bain and himself, Mr. Bain said that a familiar, charming and dignified personality was missing from the day's gathering, and referred to the President of the Club since its commencement—the late Sir Everard Fraser. Although not an active bowler, said Mr. Bain, Sir Everard always took a keen interest in the Club's affairs and rarely a Saturday afternoon passed but he turned up at some stage of the games to give a word of encouragement such as only he could give. Shanghai could ill afford him and was much the poorer to-day on this account. Mr. Bain then expressed the Club's deepest sympathies to Lady Fraser and her family.

Mr. Bain proceeded to refer to one of the Club's original members who had recently received a well-deserved honour—Sir Edward Pearce. He congratulated Sir Edward and Lady Pearce and expressed the hope that they would long be spared to enjoy their well-earned honour and that they would have a happy holiday at home.

After alluding to Mr. Simms, Mr. Clarke, Mr. Prentice, Lt.-Col. Trueman, Mr. G. Dunlop and Mr. W. A. Turnbull, Mr. Bain concluded by wishing that the season would be a successful one and hoping that the members would give the Committee their hole-hearted support.

THE AFTERNOON'S MATCH.

The afternoon's match, between teams representing the President and the Vice-President drawn for on the ground, was then played nd resulted in a victory for the Vice-President's side by the narrow margin of two points, the score reading 135 to 133.

CRICKET

Shanghai C. C. *v.* Hongkong Garrison

On the strength of Saturday's display against the Hongkong Garrison team, the Shanghai Cricket Club should have a most successful season. They gave the visitors a much more decisive beating than did the interport team, and this with an eleven by no means the strongest which might have been put into the field. It was a beautiful day for cricket, and the visitors unaccountably failed to make good use of a scoring wicket.

There were several changes from the teams which took part in the interport game. Hongkong were without Hayter and Sparks, and Shanghai were without Captain Barrett, Ollerdessen, Hayward, Wilson, Allison and Brook, their places being taken by Gotch, Day, Hansell, Morris, Haynes and Dr. O'Hara.

Shanghai batted first, and scored 201 for the loss of four wickets, and Hongkong were all out for 97, Davies and Major Bagnall being the only batsmen to shine.

Scores and analyses:—

Shanghai.

D. W. Leach, b. Wright	4
R. B. Gotch, l.b.w., b. le Fleming	66
F. L. Wainwright, c. Bagnall, b. Davies	45
W. C. G. Clifford, not out	27
W. R. Cockburn, c. Bagnall, b. Davies	0
E. W. Day not out	24
W. N. Hansell did not bat	
H. H. Morris did not bat	
G. M. Billings did not bat	
Dr. W. E. O'Hara did not bat	
W. J. Haynes did not bat	
Extras	35
Total (for four wickets)	201

	O.	M.	R.	W.
P. H. Davies	22	5	52	2
Major Wright	7	0	20	1
T. R. Beatty	11	0	28	0
E. I. Graham	4	0	17	0
R. le Fleming	7	0	49	1

Hongkong Garrison.

R. O. Olliver, b. Cockburn	0
P. le Fleming, b. Cockburn	3
W. H. Purcell, b. O'Hara	1
P. H. Davies, b. Cockburn	35
Major Bagnall, st. Haynes, b. Cockburn	34
Commdr. Morrell, c. Wainwright, b. Billings	2
Croome, b. Cockburn	3
Major Wright, b. Billings	1
T. R. Beatty, not out	5
E. I. Graham, c. Day, b. Billings	7
Extras	6
Total	97

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Cockburn	13	1	46	5
Dr. O'Hara	6	0	20	1
Hansell	4	0	20	0
Billings	2.2	0	5	3

COUNTY CRICKET

London, May 12.

At Birmingham, Sussex beat Warwickshire by nine wickets.

At Cardiff, Yorkshire beat Glamorgan by an innings and 258 runs. For Yorkshire Holtes made 138 runs and Oldroyd 151, not out. In Glamorgan's first innings, Macauley took six wickets for 12 runs.

At the Oval, Surrey beat Somerset by 10 wickets.

At Cambridge, Cambridge University beat Lancashire by 125 runs. In the second innings for Lancashire, Wright took five kets for five runs.

At Oxford, Hampshire beat Oxford University by 139 runs. Kennedy took 13 of the Oxford wickets for 106.

At Leyton, Essex beat the Combined Services by five wickets.

London, May 15.

At Dudley Yorkshire beat Worcestershire by an innings and 220 runs. For Yorkshire Oldroyd made 121 and Roy Kilner 117. Rhodes took 5 wickets for 24.

At Northampton Derbyshire beat Northamptonshire by 2 wickets. C. N. Woolley was taken ill in Northants' second innings and could not bat.

At Nottingham Notts beat Glamorgan by an innings and 205 runs. For Notts John Gunn scored 110 and Payton 106. In Glamorgan's second innings Richmond took 6 wickets for 22.

At Bristol Gloucestershire beat Sussex by 10 wickets. In Sussex's first innings Parker took 7 wickets for 27 and in the second Bennett took 7 for 68.—Reuter.

London, May 16.

At Lord's Middlesex beat Warwickshire by nine wickets. Lee scored 114 and Hendren 172 not out in Middlesex's 1st innings. In Warwickshire's 2nd innings Bates made 118 runs.

At the Oval Surrey beat Hampshire by an innings and 28 runs. P. G. H Fender made 185 for Surrey Bowell made 114 in Hampshire's second innings.

At Leyton Somerset defeated Essex on the first innings in an unfinished match. In Somerset's first innings the Essex bowler, Morris, took 8 wickets for 106. In Essex's second innings Russell scored 133.

At Leicester Lancashire beat Leicestershire by 2 runs.—Reuter.

CARPENTIER VICTORIOUS

Light-Heavyweight Championship

London, May 11.

In the 20-round contest for the light-heavyweight championship of the World at Olympia to-day, Georges Carpentier knocked out Kid Lewis with a right to the jaw in the first round.

A huge crowd assembled to witness the fight. The Duke of York and the French Ambassador were present.

Lewis was the first to appear, followed a minute later by Georges Carpentier. Both were given a tremendous reception. It was a disappointing fight and only lasted 150 seconds. The Frenchman missed a right to the jaw but in the breakaway from a clinch which followed, he landed a right arm jolt to the chin, finishing the fight. —Reuter.

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Special Articles

ON BEING STRONG

A Sermon Preached by the Rev. A. N. Rowland in Union Church, Shanghai

"I write unto you young men because you are strong, and the Word of God abideth in you, and the evil one." D. 1 John 2, 14.

The meetings in Peking of the World's Christian Student Movement have directed minds to the importance of young manhood and young womanhood for the Kingdom of God, especially in times that move so fast as these. Both Church and School are somewhat to blame concerning those in the teens and twenties. The Sunday School focusses the child; the Church perhaps specializes on the elderly person. Thus the most critical period of life seems to fall between two stools.

In the Old Testament the references to the young are almost invariably in a despondent and pessimistic vein, as if very little could be expected from them. "Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall." That is the characteristic standpoint, and it is very different from the modern attitude. We feel that the responsibility for progress rests upon the shoulders of the young. And the reins of power have been placed with increasing confidence in their hands. So far as I can see the evident advance which has been made in tolerance, humanity and such qualities is largely due to this fact. Our most important progress during the last 50 years is not due to discoveries and inventions in the material world, as so many think, it depends rather on this fact, as I believe, that the direction of affairs has been given more and more to the younger people. And I should say that this has also much to do with the hope with which we look forward to the issues of our time. God knows there are things enough to daunt us, what with economic problems, industrial strife and international complications. France, Turkey. Russia, Egypt, India, Ireland! What evils they suggest and forebode! Yet we have the strong conviction that we are not going to fail, that our best days are still to come.

PESSIMISM REGARDING YOUTH.

On the other hand, as I have said, the tone of the Jewish Scriptures is pessimistic. They are always grieving over a fall from the higher standards of an older day. They represent on the whole the standpoint of the elders. And I imagine this is still more completely true of other religions. We know, for instance, the position accorded to age at the expense of youth in the Confucian Scriptures. What then is the reason for the new outlook in Christendom. It is due to the New Testament, which is the legacy and will of one who gathered up into himself and the meanings and powers of manhood before he died at 30. Three times has the New Testament brought this rejuvenating power to bear on history, (1) when it appeared in the worn-outworld of ancient Rome (2) when it was translated into the popular speech at the dawn of modern history, (3) when it was read with new eyes 50 years ago as a gospel for man in his entirety.

Ever since Jesus rested his Kingdom on the shoulders of young men like himself the power of a new expectation has been continually welling up. Often enough his consideration for the children has been noted. But to dwell only on his tenderness is to misrepresent him. Quite as notable is his unusual interest in young men, and theirs in him, his unstinted faith into them, and theirs in him, because he was strong and they were strong. That is why, I think, John brackets young men with the "fathers" in this passage, both being "little children" in the eyes of the heavenly Father. We know how it goes against the grain to give the new generation an equal place with the old. That is the gist of Stevenson's essay on "Crabbed Age of Youth." Gosse's story of "Father and Son" and the popular drama "Milestones." But Christianity equalizes the two generations: the young are made responsible as well as the old.

THE SPIRIT OF INQUIRY.

What then is the secret of a young men's strength Obviously not experience of knowledge of the spirit of counsel, but some other kind of equality. (1) First there is the *spirit of inquiry*, of questioning. It is said that the young men of modern China are born with a question mark in their minds. That is the first sign of their power: their influence can begin nowhere else. When the spirit of enquiry is abroad things begin to happen: old conditions are distributed, old institutions are tested. No doubt it leads to disintegration, but that is the halfway house to new realities, new unities, that express the ever-advancing thought and will of God.

It is our temptation, as we grow in years, to cease our questions. They may lead to disturbance or disillusionment, and we are too tired to abide the answer to them. We cover the situation with the philosophy of "Maskee." Why should we raise this point or that? It will mean giving up familiar ways, getting out of customary grooves. So middle-age is tempted to renounce its questions. It is the strength of young men (and women) that they persist in asking them. They are not so enamoured of the old, or fearful of the new. So they question old standards, test accepted conclusions, investigate venerable sanctions. And this prepares the way for truth, by throwing aside the creed that no longer grips the mind, the custom that has ceased to be helpful the method of service that no longer suits the situation. Thus mankind marches on less encumbered towards its high destination. And we must pray to be kept young, that we may always be willing to test our thoughts by the truth of God and all things by the evidences of His will. Here is the kind of strength from which the Evangelist expected so much.

THE DISDAIN OF SAFETY.

Another secret of a young man's strength lies in his *readiness for adventure.* He is willing to go out upon a quest, taking the buffets of opposition on the right hand and on the left as part of those invigorating experiences that make life worth living. It is a sign of disappearing youth, whatever the number of the years, when a man has no zest (for putting ideals into practice. Sir Francis Bacon puts it pungently, "Men of age object too much, consult too long, adventure too little, repent too soon."

The truth is that men mostly get settled into courses that use up all their dynamic in details and consume their ardour in committees. The only chance for adventure is in the heart of youth. And once it is admitted there it becomes a source of power. For men rise, not by what they receive but by what they are ready to dare. Particulars have recently been published of Sir Edward Shackleton, whose life, closed in its prime, has been like a streak of gold in a pleasure loving age. It seems that at the age of 16 he was profoundly dissatisfied with the prospect of the ordinary smooth paths that lead from a public school to the respectabilities of a rather mechanjeal world. His whole nature was clamouring for adventure, something better than a safety appointment and a pension at 60. It was the poems of Robert Browning that kept prompting him to take the uncharted way. And into that great sea of adventure he moved with effects that have been felt for the good of us all. The powers of the world to come largely reside in youth's spirit of adventure. The burdens of our time will never be lifted, and its problems never solved by the cynical spirit that so often prevails in the midst of the years. But nothing is impossiblt to faith, and faith, as Dean Church said, is a "vision and an

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adventure." Here also is the secret of a young men's strength.

FRIENDSHIP IN CAMP.

(3)—There is yet another quality of young manhood which provides it with a divine opportunity—I mean the *power of friendship*—that delight in one another's company, that interest in the other fellow's standpoint, that happy consciousness that things can be done if they are undertaken together, which is all so characteristic of life in its youthfulness. In middle life this power rarely survives. It has been supplanted by a kind of obstinacy which some mistake for strength. As our career becomes stereotyped and our occupations become preoccupations we find it less easy to adopt that common mind which Mr. Oldham has been advocating so persuasively. Life becomes a question of holding the fort, or the stagnation of trench warfare.

But if you want to understand the powers of youth leave the official and professional standpoint and breathe the atmosphere of students in Camp or Conference. There they come full of their own ardours and loyalties of course, but how ready, how delighted to appreciate other aspects of truth and service. New and larger thoughts are assimilated, not along lines of logic but through the powers of friendship. In every generation there have been groups of young people who have together given a new outlook to the world. Coleridge, Hazlitt, Lamb were the nucleus of one set; the pre-Raphaelites made another. At Oxford the Tractarian group was followed by the Broad Church group and so on. But far and away the most important is the Christian Student Movement, with its cultivation of corporate prayer and the common mind in the things of Christ.

THE EVIL ONE.

Heere lies the strength of youth which was revealed to the apostle's eyes in their power of inquiry, of adventure and of friendship. "I write unto you young men because ye are strong, and have overcome the evil one." The evil one that opposes the Kingdom of God is hidden from us like the secret of life, but it is revealed in stupidity, in cowardice and in disunion. It is these influences that smother the beginnings of the new earth and are in eternal warfare with the spirit and strength of youth. It is fatally easy to destroy these moral possibilities, by seducing the curiousity of youth, its affection its enthusiasm along lower channels to baser ends. The spirit of inquiry often degenerates into a habit of mere criticism, an excuse for standing aloof superciliously. The spirit of adventure frequently gets frittered away in a headstrong course that ends in a bubble reputation. The spirit of friendship may easily alas! drop to a mean partnership in third-rate things. There is no master that can fully use these powers but Christ, who died for men in his youth that he might live again in their youth.

JAPAN AND RUSSIA IN THE FAR EAST

II.—The Czecho-Slovaks an Excuse for Intervention

By Lt.-Colonel B. Roustam Bek.

When planning intervention in Siberia the Allied Powers neglected one of the most important conditions necessary to make for the attainment of a definite common end—they did not have unity between them either in action or in ideas.

It was obsolutely forgotten that cooperation and coordination of diplomacy is an indispensible condition, without which a final victory is impossible. It can be said without any hesitation that there was anything but unanimity in the coalition which undertook armed intervention in Russia. Great Britain hesitated to start a war on Russia. She realized better than any one of the Powers involved in the Great War the superhuman suffering which fell to the fate of the Russian people.

Lloyd George was even ready to establish certain diplomatic relations with the Bolsheviki, and perhaps would have done so had the conditions on the Western front been more favourable. The conservative press in England in those days was of the opinion that the Russian Revolution was directed by the Germans, and unfortunately the shortsighted British diplomats in Russia supported this foolish point of view. In starting the armed intervention in Russia Great Britain was sincere in declaring openly that its aim was to overthrow the Soviet *régime* in Russia and to establish there a government on democratic lines.

AMERICAN AND FRENCH VIEWS.

The United States of America acted without any definite plan, and sent her 8,500 men to eastern Siberia, as has been confessed by Colonel William T. Donovan in the "New York Evening Journal" of October 4, 1919, in order to "Watch Japan in Sibera." Let us not forget the fact that President Wilson was one time considerably inclined to the Bolsheviki and sent a telegram of greeting to the Congress of Soviets. Later on he changed his mind and started a fierce campaign against the same Soviets which he so recently had congratulated in such a cordial manner. The other Powers directly or indirectly interested in Russia acted blindly without any investigation of the political situation.

France in her fear of Germany on one the hand and afraid of losing her billions of francs on the other hand, looked on the Bolsheviki as on her bitterest enemy, and determined to fight them to the death. I do not think that any of the Allies, except Janap, had any idea of annexation of one or another part of Russian territory. Japan alone remained absolutely indifferent to the existing *régime* in Russia. Her strategical plan consisted of annexation of a part of Russian territory. It is amusing to suppose that Bolshevism could be a menace to Japan, taking into consideration her isolated geographical position as well as other obstacles to communistic propaganda, namely language, wonderfully organized espionage, etc.

JAPAN'S PRE-ARRANGED PLAN.

Japan was forced to act in solidarity with the other Powers under the slogan to crush down Bolshevism because she was not left alone to carry out her long prearranged plan to annex the northern part of Saghalien and the Maritime Province. Had the Soviets offered to Japan the territory which she desired to take from Russia I am convinced that we would have seen the Japanese army fighting the Allies shoulder to shoulder with the Red soldiers of the Soviet Republic.

It is very interesting and very important to understand the difference of the political aim of the interveners in order to realize the reason of the astonishing failure of their problem.

Instead of organizing a strongly united coalition the Allies, from the first, disagreed with regard to the steps to be taken towards Russia and with regard to their respective political aims.

France, besides the fear of loosing her money, desired to see a strong, united monarchical Russia, and a powerful Poland as buffer state between Russia and Germany; while Great Britain favoured the disintegration of the former Russian Empire into several small, powerless states, thus preventing the long pending menace to India. The Japanese designs upon Siberia created a certain anxiety in America, which hesitated to favour those designs. It is to my knowlege that at the moment when England was in favour of Japanese intervention in Siberia and "The Times" energetically supported that idea, the United States opposed it.

THE SIBERIAN FRONT CREATED.

After long discussion, it was finally decided to create an Allied front in Siberia together with the reactionary Russians and with the Czecho-Slovaks who already achieved a series of victories over the Red Guards of the Soviets.

In June, 1918, it became known in Siberia that the Czecho-Slovaks succeeded in overthrowing the Soviet power, and on June 28 the Czecho-Slovak detachments gained control in Vladivostok and the environs. The local Zemstvo government practically lost its significance, being completely suppressed by the military force. The navy and Allied army was under the supreme command of Admiral Knight of the Asiatic fleet of the United States; Vice Admiral Kato remained a commander of the special division of the Japanese fleet; Captain Paine was in control of the British fleet; the French Colonel

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Paris was practically the commander of the Czecho-Slovak army; Captain Badiura, of the Czecho-Slovak service, was appointed the commandant of the city of Vladivostok, and to complete this administration was invited the captain of the Chinese cruiser Haiyung, whose name is unknown to me.

It was declared officially once more that "the present step is taken in a spirit of friendship and sympathy for the Russian people and not for any political faction or party. In the proclamation of July 6, 1918, issued by Admiral Knight, it was also stated that the intention of the Allied Powers was to help the Russians to "re-establish a firm and long-lived government which may cast off the yoke of the tyrannical dictatorship of the Austro-German Powers."

FANNING CIVIL WAR.

Meanwhile the Japanese were preparing a so-called Russian army which was to keep the civil war constantly aflame and thus create a condition of perpetual uncertainity as to the morrow, and to undermine every Russian authority, of whatever nature it might be, Soviet, bourgeois-democratic or monarchist.

Every one of the British and American officers who took part in the armed intervention in Siberia whom I met expressed to me similar opinions in regard to the Japanese policy towards Russia.

Only in the beginning of August, 1918, were definite steps taken in order to put the intervention on a purely military footing. In their declaration of August 5, 1918, the United States assumed officially the political responsibility for the entrance of the Japanese troops in Siberia.

"The United States and Japan," the declaration said, "are the only Powers now able to act in Siberia with sufficient force to carry out even those modest aims that have been indicated above. The Government of the United States has therefore proposed to Japan that each of those two Governments send detachments of several thovsand men to Vladivostok. These detachments should act as a sufficient force for the purpose of occupying Vladivostok and defending the Czecho-Slovaks in their western movement. The Japanese government consented to this."

AN OFFENSIVE AGAINST MOSCOW.

The western movement of the Czecho-Slovaks was nothing else than an offensive against Moscow.

On the following day the Japanese government issued an almost similar declaration to that of the United States completing it with the following words: "The Government confirms its declaration of its policy of respect for the territorial integrity of Russia and its abstention from any meddling in Russia's internal affairs and policies. In addition, it declares that immediately upon the realization of the above mentioned aims it will evacuate all its troops from Russian territory."

Similar guarantees were given also by the French and British.

On August 11, the 12th Japanese division landed at Vladivostok, and on August 18, General Otani became the nominal head of the Allied forces.

The armed intervention was started. The Czecho-Slovaks moved from Russia in an easterly direction overthrowing the Soviets on their way. The Japanese started their march westward and reached Chita, which, in December, was occupied by the 3rd Japanese division.

Ataman Simionov had already suffered serious defeat inflicted upon him by the Siberian Soviet troops, and after having repaired his destroyed forces, he entered Chita where he settled down as a satellite of Japan.

On August 16 the Japanese, together with Kalmikoff, attacked Habarovsk, and took that city. Soviet troops were obliged to retire towards Blagovestchensk, which also fell into Japanese hands on September 24.

The Amur district was invaded by the Japanese and remained under the occupation of their 14th Division. Consequently the Ussuri, the Siberian and the Chinese Eastern Railways fell under Japanese control, which provoked differences between Japan and America, and finally caused the creation of an Inter-Allied Railroad Commission on March 14, 1919.

JAPANESE ATROCITIES.

It would take too much time and space to describe all the Japanese intrigues in China which took place within the period of armed intervention in Siberia, but there cannot be the slightest doubt that the hostile action of China towards Soviet Russia and the appearence of organized bands of Hunghutzes, well equipped and armed, was entirely due to Japan. The same Japanese military command, which so often declared its love for the Russian people, now was responsible for most wanton and most disgusting manslaughter throughout Siberia. There are procurable so many documents referring to the violations of human rights, of murders and most terrible tortures of the Russian peasants by the Japanese and their paid satellites that these stories would fill up many volumes. When I read what happened in Ivanovka, the village of the county of Nikolsk—Ussurisk, Maritime Province, or in Nikolaievka, Konstantinovka and in hundreds of other places, then I understood the reason for the so-called "atrocities" which took place later in Nikolaievsk, and I forgave it to the Russians. Any honest thinking man, whatever his political opinion may be, would agree that there must be a limit even to the patience of a Russian peasant.

The burning, in March, 1919, by the Japanese soldiers of Ivanovka, the largest and richest settlement in the Amur region, was even confirmed by the Japanese military authorities. The peasants of that settlement were suspected by the Japanese of giving assistance to the Bolsheviki. Finally 169 houses were destroyed by the enraged Japanese and 232 peaceful inhabitants were killed. Besides that more than 200 other buildings were put to the flame, and there is nothing to say that large quantities of grain, agricultural machinery and other valuable property did not perish. The value of the agricultural machinery alone was estimated at more than $100,000.

THINGS NOT TO BE FORGIVEN.

I am not sentimental myself; I understand what a horror is war or revolution and what has happened on the battle fronts of Koltchak, Denikin and others would not impress me very much—it was a war, and all its horrors, when the struggle came to end, are forgiven and forgotten. But those which were committed upon the peaceful industrious Russian peasants by the Japanese who solemnly declared that they would not interfere in the inner affairs of the Russian people and that they entered Russia with sincere love to the Russian people, that cannot be either forgotten or can it be forgiven, and I am sure that the day will come when militaristic Japan will give an account about her barbaric deeds in Siberia to the same Powers which had the misfortune to entrust to her the faith of millions of Russian victims. The United States of America took the responsibility for the entry of the Japanese into the Russian territory and it is the sacred duty of its government to proceed accordingly.

England and France in those days were busy supporting Koltchak, Denikin, Yudenich and, later, Wrangel and the Poles in their fight against the Red Army of the Soviets. Their part in the Russian civil war was an active one, but the policy of the United States was of a purely passive character. The American army "watched Japan," but watched too passively.

TOKIO'S ANXIETY.

The early successes of Koltchak in 1919 inspired some anxiety among the Japanese. They knew well in Tokio that once the reactionary leaders of the Russian counter-revolution succeeded in overthrowing the Soviet Power and a form of government suitable to the Allies would be established in Russia, then all their plans in regard to the annexation of Eastern Siberia would be a failure. Therefore Japan decided energetically to support both Simionov and Kalmikoff in order that they would be able to weaken the Central Omsk Government, thus inflicting new sorrow and bloodshed upon the Russian population.

Meanwhile Koltchak was defeated, and the Czecho-Slovaks, realizing the shameful part they took in the game, deserted their supreme chief and started their retreat eastward with the intention of leaving Siberia. They were followed by the English, French and Italians.

The commander-in-chief of the American Expeditionary Forces. Major-General William S. Graves, realized the situation and he was the only one person amongst the representatives of the Allies who understood the real aim of Japan

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in Siberia. In a very energetic manner he explained to his government the abnormal state of affairs in the Russia Far East, and asked the immediate withdrawal of the American forces from Siberia. He was not listened to immediately but nevertheless his policy towards Japan and the Russian reactionaries was henceforth entirely changed.

In the beginning of 1920 the Koltchak rule was overthrown everywhere, and on January 31 the last of Koltchak's appointees, General Rosanoff, fled from Vladivostok to Japan.

During the previous effort of General Gaida, the chief of the Czecho-Slovaks to overthrow the Rosanoff government in November, 1919, the Japanese interfered and saved Rosanoff's position, but now, thanks to General Graves' intervention, the revolution was carried out successfully and Rosanoff's rule was put to an end.

In spite of the support given by the Japanese to their satellite bandit Kalmikoff, the latter was chased out and forced to intern himself on Chinese territory where he was killed by a Chinese soldier.

SUPPORT TO SIMIONOV.

Simionov still remined in Chita, being strongly backed by the Japanese. In his possession was also the town of Verkhne Udinsk, south-east of lake Baikal. But the Red partisan detachment, which had been active since the general advance of the Koltchak army on Moscow, captured this town and a provisional Zemstvo government of Pribaikalia was there formed. Meanwhile the situation of the Japanese army in the Amur province became rather deplorable. The Japanese soldiers suffered from the severe climate of that part of Siberia, and being under permanant attack by the partisans they began to show their willingness to leave this country. Finally, at the end of February, 1920, the Japanese troops began the evacuation of the Amur district and, at that time, for ever.

During March, 1920, the whole of the Czecho-Slovaks, Rumanians and Yugo-Slav started their evacuation, and the Japanese greatly increased their military force in the Maritime Province. It was now for the protection of the Czecho-Slovaks, as it was explained, that the Japanese government directed fresh troops from Japan to proceed to the Maritime Province.

THE NIKOLAIEVSK AFFAIR.

For instance the Japanese occupied Nikolaievsk, a town on the Amur situated approximately 1,000 miles north from Vladivostok, and many hundred miles away from the route which the Czecho-Slovaks took to accomplish their evacuation. There were no Czecho-Slovaks in Nikolaievsk. It is quite natural that the Russian partisans should have recaptured this town. The Japanese were overpowered, and had to surrender under a flag of truce. The Russians, however, did not even disarm their prisoners and they paid for that very dearly.

At three o'clock on the night of March 12, 1920, contrary to the truce agreement, the Japanese treacherously attacked the Russians with hand grenades. Three days of the most fierce fighting took place and finally the Japanese surrendered. Later on relief forces were sent from Saghalein, the warship Mikasa arrived, and Nikolaievsk was once again taken by the Japanese.

The Nikolaievsk affair was accompanied by new bloodshed and indescribable suffering by the Russian population.

The evacuation of the Czecho-Slovaks was accomplished in September, 1920, and it was followed by the withdrawal of the American troops.

Now the Japanese remained alone in the Maritime Province without any foreign supervision, and with the determined idea of carrying out their policy in Siberia:—*J'y suis j'y reste.*

(To be continued.)

THE HISTORY OF THE S. V. C.

The Japanese Company: Efficiency and Smartness

High amongst the all round efficient units of the S.V.C. stands the Company of the Mikado's subjects. It may, perhaps, never have achieved outstanding feats of marksmanship like the Americans; it may not march with the pace and endurance of the Scottish; it may lack the compelling force which goes with a well handled Field Artillery Battery; and it may be short of the pomp and ubiquitous fighting abilities of the Light Horse. Yet, in the way of the ever ready infantryman, combined with the intentness of the Japanese to learn anything at which the foreigner excels, it is a highly valuable unit well above the average in training and very seldom at the bottom of the competition lists, even if it is not its fortune to figure often at the top.

There does not seem to have been any enthusiasm for Volunteering amongst the Japanese in Shanghai prior to 1900, but in that troublous year the sons of Nippon were as quick to recognize their duty as were the people of any other race. All nations in the Settlement then were calling for Volunteers—and getting them—and the Japanese followed the lead of the Customs by adding another Company to the S.V.C. They were then not anything like so strong numerically in the Settlement as they are to-day, but the call was responded to with enthusiasm and the new unit was able to parade 70 strong.

FIRST O. C. NOW MAJOR-GENERAL.

Napoleon impressed upon his men that there was "a Field Marshal's baton in every man's knapsack," meaning, of course, that there were opportunities for all if they would seize upon the chance. The Japanese Company may not be able to promise quite so much, but it should be something worth remembering that the first O. C., Capt. Inamura, is at the present time a Major-General in the Japanese Regular Army. Not every step of his promotion, of course, can be traced to the S.V.C., but it is likely that his association with foreign army methods and the opportunity afforded by the formation of the Japanese Company for military practice when not otherwise engaged assisted in no small way to the attainment of his present high rank.

Frequent changes in executive positions never help towards efficiency in any walk of life and are especially discouraging in military bodies and the fact that the Japanese Company have had very few changes possibly accounts for much of their efficiency. In 15 years they only had six different Company Commanders and the present one has led them for seven years. Capt. Inamura was followed by Capt. Chiba, then came in order Lieut. Yamadi, Capt. Koaze, Capt. Asano and Capt. Yoshida. The latter handed over to Capt. T. Yamauchi, who is a veteran of 14 years' service with the Company, the last seven of which have been in command and he is still carrying on with the assistance of Lieuts. S. Kikuta, C. Matsuno and T. Date.

The numbers have increased considerably of recent years and there are at present 93 officers and men on the active list, whilst there are a number of others on the reserve. About 25 per cent. of those in the ranks have previously served their time in the Japanese Army and several have war service also to their credit. At first thought this would suggest that the Company would be dangerous competitors in Corps competitions, but, unfortunately, so far they have not been able to claim much success, not for want of trying, for that they always do and they are usually well up in the running, but there are natural, or national, disadvantages which appear to be a permanent handicap.

SOME GOOD MARKSMEN.

It has always been the lament of Capt. Grayrigge with his enthusiastic and ambitious Chinese Company that "beef will tell" and it is the same with the Japanese. When it comes to marching or some test with endurance in it, they cannot compete with much hope of success against the beef-caters of the Western world; ning of the Japanese with military neither as a body have they yet come up to the standard of Western riflemen. In this last respect there has lately been great improvement and Warrant Officer Hori (who recently won an open competition with the fine score of 38 out of a possible 40), Lce.-Corpl. Itoh, Sergt. Noiishi, Corpl. Okada and Lieut. Matsuno, as individual shots, can all compete on equal terms with the best in the Settle-

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ment. With such instructors, the Company may be expected to do better before very long. So far, however, the unit can only claim two wins on the Inter-Company Shield.

Yet in another branch of military work they have considerable consolation. Every inspecting officer and Commandant under whose notice they have come has been lavish in praise of their smartness. Though, owing to handicaps which cannot be overcome unless a nation changes its customs, the Company cannot stand marching like some of the others, it can give many of them points in smartness of action. In field work, such as extended order, taking cover, re-inforcing and so forth, the Japanese "nippiness" stands out prominently. Discipline is there to a high degree, so that orders are obeyed promptly and the short, quick movements are carried out with a celerity vastly more marked than in the case of the bigger and heavier men.

GYMNASIUM CLASSES.

In view of the fact that the world hears so much of the cunning of the Japanese with military weapons and their feats in gymnastic exercises, it seems rather a pity that the Company does not give occasional displays here. This it is well able to do, for it runs gymnasium classes, at the Japanese Club and the Japanese Public School, at which some very good work is accomplished. The men have many able instructors, three of their officers being particularly good, for Lieut. Kikuta has a big reputation at fencing, whilst Lieut. Matsuno is a specialist generally in assault-at-arms methods and the bayonet in particular, and Lieut. Date is an expert gymnast.

It is understood that there are not any of the original members of the Company left in Shanghai now, and the Company Commander is probably the oldest in the unit, his service earning him a place amongst the Volunteer veterans who recently received the Municipal Council's long service medal.

(Next Week: The Maritime Company.)

LETTERS OF A GRIFFIN TYPIST

By Rose Allen.

Shanghai, May 1922.

Dear young Kitty:

I often wonder how I managed to know the seasons of year when I had only calendars, thermometers, and the opinions of my peers to inform me. Out this-a-way the gears of the seasons shift from spring to summer in a far more spectacular fashion. One day you are wearing furs and shivering for your ricsha coolie who is wearing only two cotton coats. Next morning you bloom out in a pongee suit and observe that your puller has shed all his coats and is adorned above the waist with only a gray-black bath towel, slung round his neck with which to mop his brow. And his hat—I must not let you overlook that hat—a straw topper which belonged to some master or mississee last year. One lovely green creation which must been flung out in the spring cleaning almost caused a riot in the traffic on Nanking Loo this morning.

***

Let me remark in passing that its only because these coolies have little if any face to lose that they dare be comfortable like this. Their brothers the clerks the other higher-ups cannot don their cool grass linen robes until the calendar shows that the auspicious day has arrived, not matter how they may swelter. Such it is to be a slave to Fashion!

***

Another indication of the immenence of the heated term is the appearance of the summer uniforms of the tramway officials, a sort of oyster gray (I suspect it began life as white), with a semi-Sam Brown belt worn jauntily over the shoulder, and a commodious change purse depending therefrom. With this costume is worn a cap of the same, with blackstraw headband and the shrillest thing in whistles as an accessory.

***

All the Shanghai windows that look out on the sunny side are beetling out in eyebrows of straw blinds and some houses are fairly swathed in matshed structures to keep off the direct rays of the sun. All this preparation is making me decidedly nervous for it looks as if the gulf stream took a trip up the Yangtze every July or the equator got warped and curled round Shanghai. It was hot enough when I arrived here but if July is as bad as I'm told my estate will be saved the expense of cremation. As a nice problem in progressions I ask you: If we are wearing thin clothes now, what, if any, will be worn in August?

***

Judging from the way these advance agents, the first warm days, affect everybody the heated interim will be known as the Season of the Great Sleep. Every one so fortunate as to have an office job will retreat to his fairly cool sanctum, hang up a sign saying: "Engaged. Please do not disturb," pull the roll top over his head and snooze till four o'clock recalls him to the duties of tennis. Shanghai does its hibernating in the summer. The women's clubs take a vacation, though that means little in our toiling lives, there are no races, let us hope there are no Drives, there are no Tuxedos, only Monkey Jackets—I hope the heat won't kill me before I get to see a Monkey Jacket—and they say there was no Carlton last summer. I could believe any other report, but that I shall never credit.

***

The excitement of the present season is the National Christian Conference and Shanghai is as excited over them as if they were Shriners or Congressmen. They have come—foreigners and Chinese both—from all over China and specia guests many from all corners of the world. The hotels and boarding houses are bulging with them, we have oodles at our hostelry which is not ordinarly frequented by missionaries, and they say that no family is stamped as actively religious that isn't entertaining at least two delegates, with cots set on the verandahs if necessary.

***

From early morn to dewy eve the town hall is packed to the gunnels (whatever they may be) with representatives of all the missions and churches of China. Madge and I were talking with some of the new-comers, telling them where the bargains in silk sales were to be found, and urging them to send us down any Mandarin coats they could pick up for a song—not one of Jeritza's—and more to show that we were neighborly than because we were mad to go we said we'd try to drop in at one of the evening meetings. Instead of looking delighted that there were going to be two more people to help fill the hall, our acquaintance seemed embarrassed and said she'd be "so glad to try to get tickets of admission for us, though it was rather difficult."

***

It seems these are almost as popular as one of Billy Sunday's performances and you have to know the password and wear a badge and all that to get in. You should see the trams nowadays. They are just like a church sociable, or even more like a homeside conference with all the brethren and sisters exchanging news from their fields, making arrangements to meet in some booth or other at the Ningpo Guild Hall, hurrying off to college and seminary reunions and having a general lovefeast. Honest to goodness, its the clubbiest, peppiest gang I've seen out here and I'm glad the town belongs to them for a time.

***

Of course common folks can't get a table at the Great Eastern or the Oriental Hotels, and all the stores are as crowded as the trams. You can't get a dentist to look at you these days, and I know if I should want to get married—which I don't—or buried—which isn't on my programme either—I couldn't secure a minister till after the Conference is over. There'll never be another like it for ten years I'm told, so let 'em enjoy this to the fill.

Our housekeeping preparations continue, but of that by the next boat.

Fondly,
PHIL.

PEKING, May 12.—The Government has instructed the Consul-General at Vladivostok to protest against the opium monopoly. The Government has also instructed the Chargé d'Affaires in London to lay the matter before the Opium Commission of the League of Nations. —Reuter.

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THE FAUNA OF FUKIEN

Mr. A. de C. Sowerby's Return After a Successful Trip: Rare Specimens Acquired: Unfamiliar Birds, Fishes, Reptiles and Animals

DISAPPOINTMENT WITH THE TIGERS

Lying close packed on some spare tables in the Royal Asiatic Society's Museum, just as they have been taken from the travelling cases, there was last week displayed a collection out-rivalling anything the Museum already possesses of the same order. Yet it is but a small portion of what is to come, being the results of Mr. Arthur de C. Sowerby's second trip into the province of Fukien in connexion with his biological survey of South China on behalf of the United States National Museum. It may be remembered that Mr. Sowerby visited Fukien last autumn and early winter, and came back full of enthusiasm on account of the extraordinarily rich fauna he had seen in his journey up the Min River and its tributary, the Shachiho. Last February he returned to Foochow, the main port of the province, with double the equipment that he carried on his first trip, and now, after nearly three months' absence he has returned to Shanghai with a collection of interesting birds, beasts, fishes, reptiles, and lower forms of animal life three times the size of the one he made before. And even so, he claims that he has not really begun to make any impression upon the rich stores of biological material that await the investigator.

SOME OF THE TREASURES.

Especially interesting are the birds, which form the greater part of this instalment. There are treasures amongst them which have to be seen to be believed and such is the unknown wealth of China's wild life, hitherto doubted, that even the rarest specimens are, according to Mr. Sowerby, plentiful in this paradise. The gem of the collection is a Fukien barn owl, of which he believes there are only two in all the world's collections and both of them are in the British Museum. It is a much darker plumaged bird than the barn owl as we know it at Home and is quite a handsome bird, but it would probably be passed over by most people in favour of a violet whistling thrush. The colour sounds as unlikely as black or green in roses, but the plumage is, nevertheless, a beautiful deep violet all over, without a mark.

There are a couple of great sooty albatrosses caught on the coast, a hawk cuckoo, pigmy owlets, a gorgeous crested and superbly coloured Sultan tit, bulbuls which, beautiful as are those which can be seen in the gardens on the fringe of the Settlement, put these latter completely in the shade with their vivid tints of green and blue, with yellow underbody. There are kingfishers the more beautiful because of their extra size, and blue and white and narcissus flycatchers which are a sort of miniature edition of the kingfishers, barbets of varied shades with green undertails, dapper forktails, Oriental rollers and dozens of others.

Bats, large and small, fill other cases, one specimen being the rare leaf-nosed variety, and there are the skins of deer, civet cats, mongoose, snakes and even rats, the prize amongst the latter being an enormous brute 22 inches long and weighing 1¼ lb. Mr. Sowerby missed some varieties of lizards he hoped to find, but he has got many choice specimens, also snails, fish and other water things.

The curiosity of the collection is a pangolin, or scaly ant-eater, a weird animal closely related to the armadillo. Instead of the armoured sections of the latter, the pangolin's protective covering is of small plates so closely fitted as to make almost one sheet of horny mail, under which it curls up when something hungry and with a better fighting armament turns up to make inquiries.

AFTER "STRIPES."

Mr. Sowerby says of this splendid collection that it is "the land of Kipling's animals come to China," where most people think they cannot be found, and a glance at the above list will corroborate his description. He wanted a tiger badly, not only for the collection, but because he has yet to get one on his own account. He came across chances in plenty, but the villagers always spoilt the opportunity. Tigers, he found, were doing immense havoc, but whenever a cow or other domestic animal was killed, instead of leaving the carcase where it was and telling him so that he could wait for the marauder to return for the feast, they would cut up the meat, sell it and then tell him—perhaps.

One find is worth special mention. It is not anything that has lived, but it is something even Mr. Sowerby has never heard of before and will arouse the greatest interest amongst the scientists of his class. It was brought in by one of the gentlemen who would go by the dignified name of *shikari* in India and something equally high-sounding in Western countries, but here in China are just "boys." He cannot give anything in natural history a six syllable name, but he knows the work and what to look for almost as well as his master. Rummaging about one day he pocketed a leaf and brought it in to his delighted employer. It has been cut inward from two directions as clean as with a pair of scissors, the section thus formed has been turned up and in, then sealed and so forms a perfectly symmetrical bell-tent of the approved Army pattern. A minute door has been cut, but unfortunately the resident was not at home and so, though it is obviously a caterpillar of some sort, it cannot be identified. There were two of these villas on one leaf.

THE "BLUE TIGER."

On his last trip Mr. Sowerby first went south of Foochow into the Futsing district, in the hopes of getting a shot at the famous "blue tiger" that was reported to be doing a lot of damage to life, human as well as bovine. He was accompanied by the Rev. H. R. Caldwell, the original discoverer of the animal, but the trip, as far as any tiger shooting was concerned, turned out a failure. The blue tiger had betaken himself to the shelter of some impossible country to hunt in, and though other tigers were in the immediate vicinity of their headquarters, killing cattle right under their noses, so to speak, fortune was against them and neither of the hunters got a glimpse of one of these savage animals. However, the trip was far from being a failure otherwise, for good collections of animals of various kinds were made by both parties, Mr. Caldwell collecting for the American Museum of Natural History, New York, and other American institutions. Assisted by native hunters with dogs, they managed to get some very interesting forms of the smaller carnivores, with which the province abounds, while birds of beautiful plumage, and peculiar reptiles and fishes were also secured.

A BAT CAVE.

Returning to Foochow, Mr. Sowerby next ascended the Min River once more, reaching the town of Yenpingfu, whence, on the advice of Mr. Caldwell, he went into the mountains behind that city. He had intended later to continue up the main river towards the Kiangsi border of the province, but a letter received at Yenping, and calling for his presence in Shanghai in May, made him decide to spend the rest of his time at the back of that city, where he had camped in some splendid country in which to make a good, representative collection of the local fauna. Heavy rains interfered very much with his work, at the same time causing him to suffer considerably from acute rheumatism, but, in spite of these adverse conditions, he managed to cover a good deal of country and to make a fine collection, especially of birds and reptiles, amongst other things securing some specimens of a very rare newt, numerous snakes, venomous and otherwise, as well as a large species of the giant tree frog, an animal that is extremely rare in museums. There is a "bat cave" in this district, which Mr. Sowerby visited several times, securing a magnificent series of bats, including 11 different species, ranging from creatures with a wing span of 18 inches and more down to miniature little animals that it was almost impossible to skin.

On his way back to Shanghai, Mr. Sowerby gave a lecture upon the natural history of China at Foochow, at which the subject of the formation of a zoological or

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biological society of China was discussed.

Mr. Sowerby has promised us a fuller account of his experiences, and also intends to appeal to scientists in China and those interested in the subject to form the society mentioned above.

SALAMANDERS IN SHANGHAI.

One more point. Just about this time, two years ago, the member of our staff who interviewed Mr. Sowerby was walking along the Bund when he was attracted to a big crowd outside the Hongkong & Shanghai Bank. Elbowing through, he saw a hideous monstrosity, something like a miniature alligator, save that its snout and tail were flat. Some distance farther along was another and it was ascertained that they had crawled up through the drains. We do not know what became of them, but we published the story and received much sarcastic advice to "mix more water with it." Mr. Sowerby was asked whether he knew what they were and he groaned dismally when he was given a minute description of them. "Oh, why didn't you get them?" he expostulated. "They were undoubtedly salamanders, which are not supposed to exist in China, and here they are actually living in Shanghai under our noses." So, please, will everybody catch all the salamanders they find when cashing cheques at the Hongkong & Shanghai Bank?

THE R.M.S. Monteagle is said to hold the record for the largest silk shipment from Japan this year. On her last trip to Vancouver she took 3,831 bales of raw silk, this being 531 bales more than that carried by the Empress of Asia last January.

THE announcement is made of the engagement of Mr. W. S. Dupree, taipan of the Hankow branch of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., to Miss Mona Macintyre, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Macintyre of 98 Madison Avenue, New York.

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COMMERCE & FINANCE

Money and Exchange

Shanghai, May 19.

Bank's Demand Selling Rate for £1 at 3/7$\frac{1}{4}$=Tls. 5.67 at 72.4= $7.83

Bank's Demand Selling Rate for G.$100 at 80=Tls. 125 at 72.4= $172.65

Mex. Dollars, market rate	72.6375
Native Interest	19
Copper Cash	232,800
Bar Silver	37
Bank rate of Discount	4%
Paris on London	Frs. 48.83
New York on London	G.$4.45

BANK'S OPENING SELLING RATES.

	Per Tael
LONDON—	
Telegraphic Transfer	3/7
Demand	3/7$\frac{1}{4}$
NEW YORK—	
Telegraphic Transfer	79$\frac{3}{4}$
Demand	80
PARIS—	
Demand	878
INDIA—	
Demand	273$\frac{1}{2}$
HONGKONG—	
Demand	73
YOKOHAMA—	
Demand	59$\frac{3}{4}$
BATAVIA—	
Demand	211
SINGAPORE—	
Demand	65$\frac{1}{4}$

BANK'S OPENING BUYING RATES.

LONDON—	
Demand	3/9
4 m/s. Credits	3/9$\frac{1}{2}$
4 m/s. Docs.	3/10
6 m/s. Credits	3/10
6 m/s. Docs.	3/10$\frac{1}{2}$
NEW YORK—	
Demand	83
4 m/s. Credits	83$\frac{3}{4}$
4 m/s. Docs.	84$\frac{1}{4}$
PARIS—	
4 m/s. Docs.	925
Closing business done at	
London T.T.	3/8$\frac{1}{8}$
New York T.T.	82

Sino-Italian Bank Quotations

Selling Rates, May 19.

It. Lire 15.75	Tl. 1
Swiss Frs. 4.23	Tl. 1
Marks 232.00	Tl. 1
It. Lire 9.15	Y. 1

Quotations, May 18.

It. Lire 86.05	£1 stg.
It. Lire 19.30	$1 U.S.
It. Lire 176.00	Frs. 100 (France).

Francs and Sterling

Paris, May 17.

The London-Paris cross rate is quoted to-day at £1=Frs. 48.86$\frac{1}{2}$.—French Wireless through Reuter.

Stock Exchange Settlements

London, May 16.

The Stock Exchange Committee have decided to resume their fortnightly settlements on May 22 with contangoes, but gilt-edged stocks are still to be restricted to cash settlement. Dealings, for account, in foreign securities are prohibited.—Reuter.

Week's Exchange Notes

May 20.

At the close of business on 18th instant the stock of silver in Shanghai was Tls. 25,137,000 and $35,950,000.

These figures include Tls. 6,870,000 and $21,720,000 in Chinese banks, in which there were no bars.

BAR SILVER.

Arrivals were:—

380 bars from America.

Shipments were:—

388 bars to Hongkong.
464 ,, ,, Hangchow and Nanking.

852 bars.

SYCEE.

Tls. 300,000 from Canton (small coin to be converted).
Tls. 250,000 from Hongkong (small coin to be converted).

Tls. 550,000

Shipments were:—

Tls. 1,140,000 to Hangchow and Nanking.

DOLLARS.

Arrivals were:—

$350,000 from Hangchow and Nanking.
240,000 ,, Hangchow.
300,000 ,, Amoy.

$890,000

Shipments were:—

$1,000,000 to Coccon Districts.
1,000,000 ,, Shaoshing.
100,000 ,, Kiukiang.

$2,100,000

SILVER.

Thursday's quotation in London was 37d. ready and forward, a rise of 1$\frac{3}{8}$d. and 1$\frac{1}{2}$d. on the respective deliveries during the week. Latest advices report China buying and a firm market, India has been a buyer for prompt shipment, and the Continent a small seller; but from advices it would appear that offerings generally have been restricted. Operations in America have been very moderate; the price of silver there is quoted at 74$\frac{11}{16}$, business done. The London/New York cross rate comes as 445$\frac{1}{8}$.

EXCHANGE.

The quoted rate remained unchanged at T.T. 3/6d. till Thursday morning, when it advanced $\frac{1}{2}$d. to 3/6$\frac{1}{2}$d., and early in the afternoon a further rise of $\frac{1}{2}$d. was made to T.T. 3/7d., the present level. Speculators have been operating freely, being generally good sellers at 1d. to 1$\frac{1}{4}$d. over the quoted rate. Business generally affords slight signs of improvement especially as regards exports, bills being considerably more in evidence than for some time past. There are sellers of G.$ T.T. 82 for ready and near. 4 m/s L/C Sterling is quoted 3/9$\frac{3}{8}$d., 4 m/s G.$ L/C 84$\frac{1}{2}$.

SHANGHAI MARKET REPORT

Auctions Re-opened: Promising Trade with River Ports: North Still Slack

May 20.

The big feature of the week was the re-opening of the piece goods auctions after a month's closure on account of the fighting in the north. The result was not quite what was expected, for, although Yuenfong did very good business, Ewo and Kungping found things somewhat slow. However, there was ample evidence of a desire to do genuine business once more and when the north finally settles down trade will undoubtedly brighten up. The auctions will carry on as usual next week, but in that following there will be a holiday on account of the Dragon Boat Festival. Exceptionally good private business is reported. News has also been received of a strengthening of the Home market, some houses being reported with an advance of as much as 10 per cent., whilst there is an average rise of about 5 per cent. Exporters have been flattered with a renewal of inquiries all round, but trade is still hampered in some cases by shortage of supplies and in others by adverse exchange. Local cotton has turned rather steady and yarn weak, whilst deliveries have not been so good.

PIECE GOODS.

Taking things all round, it was a very satisfactory week and clearances and deliveries have been very good. The river ports, Ningpo, Hangchow and other nearby places again accounted for most of the sales, the northern people being still wary whilst fighting continues this side of the Great Wall. The big firms had a particularly good time with private sales. Italians were a feature. The real buying season has not properly started, and so the demand was somewhat speculative, but there are many markets which take these goods all the year round and they have become so bare of supplies that there was more demand than is usual. Chinkiang was especially keen on this line and the market was probably better than at any time since the Chinese New Year.

For Whites there was an absolute lack of demand from Korea, but the great enthusiasm of river ports dealers and people from as far away as Szechuen was ample compensation. Conditions in their areas are better now than they have been at any time during the past two years, when they were harassed in turn by war, floods and famines. They bought royally and much bigger business is fully expected to develop, for it is a very long time since such a brisk demand was experienced.

COTTON AND YARN.

Local Cotton Market.—The market is steady and prices are up about half a tael. The closing quotations are:—

Tungchow	Tls. 35.00
Shanghai	,, 33.00
Nanzu	,, 33.00
Shensi I	,, 34.50
Hankow	,, 31.50

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Yarn. — Prices have dropped again by about Tls. 3 and the market is exhibiting a weak tendency. Clearances have not been particularly satisfactory.

PRODUCE.

A more or less all round inquiry is in evidence again, but there is still in adverse exchange to be reckoned with. There has been a little business in hides. The Home demand for feathers continues, but the rise in exchange and shortage of supplies prevents anything resulting. Both Europe and America are asking about egg products and the market is very firm. The season for raw furs is practically at an end. There is also a very free inquiry for the new crop beans and rapeseed and the first offers of rapeseed have been submitted. Local dealers are still unwilling to make offers over beans, but some business is reported as having been done at Hankow.

BRITAIN AND WORLD COMMERCE

Notable Review by President of Board of Trade: British Productive Power

London, May 11.

The President of the Board of Trade, Mr. Stanley Baldwin, in introducing the Board of Trade estimates in the House of Commons to-day, gave a review of world trade. Mr. Baldwin said that there was nothing in the condition of the British Dominions, the United States, South America, Holland, Scandinavia or Spain to prevent them from again buying largely. He regarded with apprehension the increases in tariffs, especially in France, Italy, Spain and the United States, but he felt confident that we would hold our own in the Dominions owing to their generous preference. A further disquieting feature was the attempted discrimination in certain maritime countries against British shipping. He hoped that the Motherland and the Dominions would confer on that matter before it was too late.

If the restoration of Europe was delayed, Mr. Baldwin continued, we must intensively develop inter-Imperial trade and push into the Eastern and South American markets. British industries had mostly liquidated the stocks which they had accumulated in the short post-war boom, but a reduction in taxation was essential to the resumption of business.

DIFFERENT TRADES REVIEWED.

The coal trade alone had reached the economic level, the speaker went on. It was the only trade where exports were something like the pre-war average, but, unfortunately, there was no great demand for industrial coal, which was not likely to revive till trade generally began to improve.

The iron and steel trade had had the most difficult time, and was not likely to reach a paying position for some time, as the world was convinced that bottom prices had not yet been reached.

The wool trade was comparatively cheerful, notably yarns and piece goods, but the growth of tariffs abroad was injurious.

The other side of the picture, however, showed that our productive power was greater than ever, while London remained the world's financial centre. Mr. Baldwin quoted the percentages of exports since 1913, showing that we were slowly climbing out of the appalling pit into which we fell on the collapse of the post-war boom and giving real hope that we were on the eve of a better time. The speaker forecast that trade would continue its slow and gradual improvement, but all classes must cooperate in production.

Lancashire was viewing with alarm the increase in duties in India, Mr. Baldwin said. He hoped that the labours of the Indian Fiscal Commission, which was studying the whole question, would bring some comfort to British manufacturers.

Summing up the world's markets, the President of the Board of Trade said that they saw little sign of rapidly increasing trade with the Dominions. They saw in India difficulties placed in the way by tariff, by the fall of the rupee and by unliquidated stocks. They saw in Japan financial troubles and in China political troubles, but saw in South America signs of improvement and also similar signs in the United States.

LANCASHIRE'S COURAGE.

He added that the cotton trade had to contend with many difficulties which had arisen largely owing to the fact that their great trade with the East and the Indian trade were not only hampered by the Indian tariff but by a large amount of bills in India which were awaiting liquidation. The industry of Lancashire had faced with great courage and commonsense the cheapening of production necessary to enable it to re-enter various markets. Mr. Baldwin expressed the opinion that Lancashire had set an example to the country in settling trade disputes without involving the rest of the country.—Reuter.

TRADE MARKS IN JAPAN

Stringent Law Advocated

Tokio, May 8.

In an interview with a representative of the Kokusai News Agency this afternoon, Dr. Dan, head of the Japanese business mission to Europe and America, dealt with the trade mark issue which has aroused so much feeling in England. He said that he was going to bring the matter before the Chambers of Commerce of Japan and urge them to take action which will lead to the adoption of a law in this country similar to that of the United States and England. Commenting on the questions fired at him from all sides in England regarding this issue, Dr. Dan said the present laws of Japan allow imitations and that most of this imitating of foreign trade marks was done by small firms in this country. It hurts the country, he said, and is doing Japan no good abroad. Some of the foreign makers are in a measure to blame for this imitation, said Dr. Dan. If trade marks are registered, he declared, they are protected by Japanese law and carelessness on the part of outside manufacturers in complying with this rule has left them open to imitation and in some cases to exact copying.—

U. S. Paper Mill Wages

New York, May 12.

Seven of the largest paper companies of the United States have signed agreements with their skilled and semi-skilled workers increasing their wages in some places.—U. S. Navy Radio through Reuter.

American Steel Combine

New York, May 12.

The Lacawanna Steel Company has announced the completion of negotiations for amalgamation with the Bethlehem Steel Company.—Reuter.

Washington, May 13.

The Senate has ordered an investigation into the pending merger of the hitherto independent Lackawanna Steel Company with the Bethlehem Steel Company.—Reuter.

WEEKS & CO., LTD.

Proposed Dividend

Subject to the approval of the shareholders, the directors of Weeks & Co., Ld., recommend that the balance at credit of profit and loss for year ended February 28, 1922, be disposed of as follows:—

Pay a dividend of 8 per cent. for the year	$34,915.20
Write off buildings	22,000.00
Place to Reserve	87,764.33
Carry forward to new account	48,456.23
	$193,135.76

The Ocean Corporation

At the fifty-first annual meeting of the Ocean Accident & Guarantee Corporation, Ld., held in London, the income for the year 1921 was reported to have been £5,827,134, the balance to the credit of the revenue account, after paying all claims and expenses and including provision for outstanding claims, was £4,247,244, the reserves at December 31, 1921, £7,071,062, and the total assets £7,657,433.

Rubber Output

The rubber harvested for the month of April on the Permata Estate was 7,998 lb.

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MORE LOOMS WORKING

Manchester Reports Encouraging Demand for Exports: Inquiry Galore

From Our Own Correspondent.

Manchester, Mar. 24.

Although the price of American cotton continues to fluctuate and is easily influenced in one direction or the other, the tendency during the past few days has been towards an improvement, and the week closes with both spot and futures a few points higher. The trade has purchased more freely and new crop news is not so satisfactory as it might be. The Census Bureau's final estimate of the 1921-2 crop is 7,977,000 bales, or about what was expected, and had no effect upon the market. The future course of prices will depend entirely upon the prospects of the next crop, but it is much too early to form any reliable opinion. Reports from Alexandria do not indicate any change in the position of Egyptian cotton.

The yarn market is beginning to show more animation, and, although prices continue poor, the demand is broadening and, in some cases, spinners of American yarns have been able to advance their rates. Owing to the very low prices recently accepted for piece goods, our own manufacturers are not able to give much assistance to spinners, but the fact that production is moving off better has strengthened the position all round. The increasing attention which is being given to beams and cop twist shows that more looms are getting to work, whatever the result may be.

There is an encouraging demand for export, but the prices generally offered, so far as the large Eastern markets are concerned, are now below spinners' requirements. Some sales have been made for Bombay in 30/32s. single and also in 40/2 sewings. Madras and Calcutta want more 40s. grey yarn, but cannot now buy as cheaply as before. There is more inquiry for the finer numbers, say 50s. and upwards. A good miscellaneous trade is being done for the Continent, both in cops and bundles. Egyptian yarns are not yet in special favour and, although prices keep steady and in some cases are rather stiffer, the trade at present is rather slow.

The basis of cloth inquiry appears to be steadily broadening and, in consequance, the whole tone of the market is healthier. India leads the way with dhooties, grey goods and lighter fabrics and, although offers do not improve much, many makers are stiffening their backs, and large concessions, such as buyers have of late been able to obtain, are now no longer available. This is the feature of the market rather than any very marked advance in prices. The consuming markets naturally feel this better tone and are by slow degrees responding, but there is no attempt so far to rush prices up by any wild buying. There is inquiry galore, but buyers are cautious, and fight against every small advance.

Silk Shipment

Silk shipped by the R.M.S. Empress of Russia from Shanghai on April 23, arrived at New York on May 12.

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LAW REPORTS

THE LOCAL DIVORCE CASE

Cohen *v.* Cohen: A Further Hearing

The divorce action, Cohen *v.* Cohen, was continued at H. M. Supreme Court last Friday, before his Honour Judge Grain. Mr. H. Langley-Smith appears for the petitioner (Mrs. Cohen) and Mr. M. B. Brown for the respondent.

Petitioner again went into the witness box, and in answer to Mr. Langley-Smith, described a street incident in which she alleged respondent used insulting language towards her. She declared that respondent had threatened to have his "revenge," and added that from that time she carried a whistle in case he attempted to do her any harm when she might be alone.

In answer to Mr. Brown, witness denied that her story of the street incident was a deliberate untruth.

Counsel questioned her as to the allegation that she was kept without food, and referred to an occasion on which fish and fowl remained in the house uncooked and had to be thrown away.

Witness repeated that she had no food from respondent, saying that extra food was brought in when friends visited her husband. He then asked her to join in the meal, but she never did, because it was only a pretence when people were in the house.

On Tuesday afternoon, Mr. M. B. Brown opening the case for respondent.

In the course of his speech, counsel characterized the petitioner's allegations of cruelty and adultery as fabrications. Respondent had an answer to every item. He would go into the box and offer a categorical denial of every charge made against him. The petition, which had been very carefully framed, was composed partly of gross exaggerations and partly, to some extent, of inventions. There was not a particle of truth in the allegations of cruelty, and the three allegations of adultery were denied *in toto*. The evidence called in support of them was of the most trifling nature and was entirely insufficient to convince a judge or jury or any reasonable man. Petitioner had related a long story of incredible cruelty and if half of it were true she was a a grievously ill-used woman, thoroughly justified in bringing the case. But he was bound to say that part of her story would be proved to be either invention or exaggeration. Certainly there were disagreements and quarrels, but nothing occurred to justify the serious charges brought against respondent.

Counsel intimated that he had a number of witnesses to call for the defence.

YOUNG MAN CHARGED WITH FORGERY

Committed for Trial

Thomas Edward Mellows, unemployed, appeared before Mr. G. W. King at H. M. Police Court on Saturday charged with having forged and uttered the name of his father, T. Mellows, on a cheque for $160, with intent to defraud.

Mr. R. C. Faithfull, who prosecuted for the police, briefly stated the facts of the case, which were that defendant incurred a bill for $160 at a Russian boarding house in Range Road. He kept promising to pay and when the proprietor, on the 11th instant, insisted on payment defendant took him to the Customs Club where he said he would get a cheque from his father. Defendant went into the club and made out a cheque for the amount, signed T. Mellows, and drawn on the American Oriental Bank. When presented at the bank next day the cheque was marked "No account with us."

Det.-Sgt. Balchin, giving evidence of arrest, said that when the charge was read over to defendant he replied: "I do not deny the charge."

His Workship said he must commit defendant for trial on the charge of forgery, but granted a remand until Monday on the application of Mr. Faithfull.

AN INTERESTING POINT.

At Monday's hearing, Kaleck Thomasevitch, a boarding-house keeper, of 17 Range Road, said that the accused lived at his house from March 23 to May 12. He paid $50 for his board and lodging about two weeks ago and witness several times asked him for the rest. On May 9 an amount of $150 was owing. On May 11 defendant asked him to go with him to the Customs Club, where he said his father would give him a cheque. They went there, defendant entered the club and a few minutes later came out and handed witness a cheque for $150, saying that his father had seen witness from the billiard room and had given him the cheque. Witness's wife took the cheque to the bank, but was refused payment. Witness then informed the police, as he had heard that the defendant intended to leave Shanghai the same day.

Defendant said that he distinctly told the witness that he was not to go to the bank except in his company, as the cheque was made out in his (defendant's) name and without him being present the money would not be paid.

Witness said this was correct.

T. A. Schneider, a clerk at the American Oriental Bank, said that his special duty was to check the signatures on all cheques presented for payment. The cheque in this case was issued by the bank, but it was signed "T. Mellows" and, as no person of that name had ever had an account at the bank, he returned it, marked: "No account with us." The cheque was an old one; they used different ones now. Even if "T. Mellows" had come with the person presenting the cheque they would not have cashed it. No one of the name of Mellows had ever had an account at the bank.

DEFENDANT'S BOARD.

Inspector T. Mellows, of the River Police, said that the defendant, his son, called for him at the Customs Club on May 11 and said that he was going away on a ship in two or three days. Witness said: "All right. I hope you will." Defendant then walked away and as he opened the door witness noticed Thomasevitch standing outside. This appealed to him as rather curious, so he looked through the window and saw Thomasevitch put his arm round the boy's neck and laugh, "as though he had done a good stroke of business." Witness could not understand Thomasevitch's assertion that the boy owed him $150, for when the defendant went to live at the house witness guaranteed his bill, which was to be $50 a month. He had paid this up to the end of April and had a receipt (produced). He did not understand why there should be $150 now owing. Witness had never had an account at the American Oriental Bank. His son's name was Thomas Mellows. He had been signing himself "T. E. Mellows" for three or four years, but witness did not know why. The cheque was signed in his son's own writing and the signature was his own, not in any way resembling that of witness.

In adjourning the case for further evidence, the Magistrate said it might be mentioned that there was no criminality in signing one's own name, or even a wrong name, unless it was done to deceive a person. There was no patent right in any name. For himself he deliberately signed in two or three different ways in different places. He would, however, point out to the defendant that it had been given in evidence that he stated the cheque was given to him by his father.

Defendant—I can prove it is not a forgery, nor was there any attempt at forgery.

DEFENDANT'S EXPLANATION.

Proceedings were continued on Tuesday.

Through Det-Sgt. Schmidt, Mrs. Thomasevitch, wife of a boarding house keeper of Range Road, complained against having been described in the newspapers as a Russian. She and her husband were Poles.

Mr. Faithfull—A distinction without a difference.

His Worship—I don't agree. Russians and Poles are wide apart.

Mr. Thomasevitch was re-called, after some discussion on the question of procedure, and said that defendant agreed to pay him $145 a month for two rooms with board. He understood that defendant's father would be responsible for all the debts of his son, and when defendant said the cheque in ques-

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tion was from his father he took this for granted. Otherwise he would not have kept the young man in his house.

His Worship then intimated that he would frame two charges against the defendant, one of forging the cheque and one of uttering it, and added that possibly a third charge of obtaining credit by means of a worthless cheque might be preferred against him later on.

Defendant then volunteered to make a statement. After having received the usual caution, he said that he wished to prove he was not guilty of the charge of forgery. The cheque was made out to himself and signed by himself. If he had intended forgery, he would have signed the cheque in the same way as his father signed his letters, having letters bearing his signature, and the cheque would have been issued on the bank at which his father had his account. He issued the cheque because he wanted to gain time. Mr. Thomasevitch had pressed for payment of his account and had threatened to take proceedings, and he knew there would be a scandal, Mr. Thomasevitch not being a man of commonsense or understanding. Witness distinctly told him he was not to go to the bank, his reason being that he intended to obtain the cheque on the following morning and destroy it, as he expected to be able to get the money from a lady friend. This lady, however, was unable to help him at the moment, but promised to lend him the money on the return of her husband in 14 or 15 days. Witness repeated that he distinctly told Mr. Thomasevitch not to go to the bank, and that he had no intention to commit forgery or defraud him of his board and lodging money.

The lady in question gave evidence on Wednesday, stating that defendent applied to her for assistance and she promised to arrange a loan, up to $100 or $150, when her husband returned to Shanghai.

Defendant was then committed for trial.

PAUL SVELANE, a member of the crew of the str. Independence, was committed for trial at the U. S. Commissioner's Court on Monday on a charge of larceny. He is alleged to have stolen a consignment of shears. Bail was fixed in $12,000.

In H. M. Supreme Court on Tuesday, Judge Grain ordered pleadings in the case of Dr. Paul Martin *v.* P. W. Pate—a claim for Tls. 125 for professional services rendered to defendant's wife. Mr. F. J. Schuhl appeared for plaintiff and Mr. L. K. Kentwell for defendant. At the same sitting Chang Chao, a tailor, sued T. Freeman for $60.50 for making some silk shirts and collars. Defendant contended that the shirts were not made of the material he supplied and produced samples in proof of their inferior quality. The case was adjourned for the attendance of a silk expert.

THE DEATH OF MR. T. G. SMEATON

Judgement in Action Against French Municipal Council

TLS. 14,000 DAMAGES

Judgement has been given by the French Consular Court in the case in which damages were claimed by the widow of the late Mr. T. G. Smeaton, and also on behalf of her two children, against the French Municipal Council, on the contention that they were responsible for the obstructions on the French Bund which resulted in a fatal accident to Mr. Smeaton. It will be remembered that, whilst running to catch a tram, he tripped over some paving stones and several witnesses at the inquest declared that there was not sufficient lighting at that part of the roadway. The plaintiffs were represented by M. J. Barraud, instructed by Mr. A. C. Holborow, and M. A. du Pac de Marsoulies appeared on behalf of the French Municipal Council.

The Court awarded Mrs. Smeaton Tls. 6,000 damages, and the children Tls. 4,000 each, also directing the Municipal Council to pay the costs. A translation of the judgement follows:—

It is granted that.—On October 20, 1921, as it seems between the hours of a quarter to six and six o'clock in the evening, Thomas Gibb Smeaton, returning from his office, collided with some paving stones placed on the French Quay for Municipal purposes and fell, was taken home and then to the hospital, and died during the night.

The responsibility of the French Municipal Council cannot be maintained unless it is proved, in accordance with Article 1383 of the Civil Code, that damage has been caused, i.e., that the sole cause of Smeaton's death is the fall that took place on the French Quay and that this fall has been caused by the paving stones that were placed there, and that there has been negligence on the part of the department concerned owing to the fact that the precautions prescribed by Article 14 of the Municipal Police Regulations were not taken in time to prevent the accident.

EVIDENCE OF THE ACCIDENT.

As far as concerns the damage caused.—According to the evidence of Donald William Holder, who accompanied the deceased and whose testimony is as clear, detailed and precise as one could hope in such circumstances, Smeaton, who had started to run to catch a tramcar turning the corner of the Rue du Consulat, collided with one or two of the paving stones placed on the pathway and fell face downwards; he was then raised by Holder and placed in a ricsha and was then taken to his house, showing signs of extreme pain during the journey. Dr. Walter Brunstead Billinghurst was immediately called in and diagnosed, at a quarter past seven in the evening, a rupture of the spleen or kidneys, and had him taken to the hospital with a view to an eventual operation; assisted by his partners, Drs. Marsh and Gauntlett, examined him again at 10 p.m., and decided against the advisability of an operation. Smeaton died shortly afterwards. A *post-mortem* examination the next day showed a complete rupture of the left kidney, followed by internal hemorrhage, all the other organs being normal.

MEDICAL OPINION.

It is regrettable that there is an absence of any legal document established at the time, but such absence is explained by the fact that the interested party, suffering from the shock of the blow that had befallen her, paid no attention to the possibility of an eventual case in Court, and the Court, wishing to make all possible investigation, has called in Dr. Fresson, formerly of the hospitals of Paris, a well known Shanghai surgeon, to whom the following questions were put:—

1.—Could Smeaton's fall have resulted in death owing to rupture of a kidney?

2.—Could a man, falling on his face, rupture his kidney without externally bruising his body?

3.—Does not the fact that Smeaton suffered from a ruptured kidney, consequent upon a fall upon his face, indicate that he was already suffering from some affection of this organ?

4.—Would an operation after the accident have saved Smeaton's life?

Dr. Fresson, after having gone over all available evidence, replied to the first three questions as follows:—"Smeaton's fall upon his abdomen, without protection from his arms, colliding directly on a cutting stone would realize all the necessary conditions to produce a 'traumatic' rupture of the kidney even if he were absolutely healthy. As far as the operation is concerned, judging at this late period, it appears that a surgical operation would have good chances of saving the patient, but that is merely an impression and it is impossible to impugn either of the attendant doctors. I wish simply to say that a surgical operation in cases of rupture of the kidney is often successful, but that the practicability of such an operation depends upon the various circumstances of the case.

It has now been proved to the satisfaction of the Court that Smeaton's death was actually due to the rupture of the left kidney and consequent hemorrhage, caused by the fall that he sustained on October 20, 1921, on one or several paving stones placed on the French Quay.

LIGHTS ON THE OBSTRUCTIONS.

As far as the alleged negligence of the Municipal department is concerned:—Article XIV of the regulations says expressly that "everything that is of such a nature as to diminish the freedom or security of the pathway, the depositing of materials or goods, works executed on the public road,

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must be indicated, in daytime by notices, at night by red lights."

Holder has on several occasions stated that, at the time of Smeaton's fall, no special light was there to indicate the presence of the paving stones; that these stones were not sufficiently visible at the time to enable a man, who was unaware of their existence, and was running, to avoid them. Certain details of his evidence, allusions to the tramway lights, conversation with Smeaton following the accident, concerning a suggested letter to the papers; confirm that at the hour of the accident, night had commenced. The visibility of the particular place where the paving stones were placed was further lessened by the proximity of a tree whose foliage partially shaded the light emitted from the nearest public lamp post. The Chief of Sector Taulier had warned the Municipal department concerned of the total absence of any special illumination on October 18; as a result of his warning, Inspector Beremguia had, on the same day, given special instructions to the Chinese employed under his orders; these instructions had been carried out, according to the statement of Taulier, who declared that on October 20, the day of the accident, between 5.30 p.m. and 6 p.m., the regulation lamps were there. It is naturally impossible both for Holder and for Taulier to fix exactly the time at which the first had seen Smeaton fall and the second had seen the lamps lit. This apparent contradiction is explained by the fact that the accident may have occurred a few minutes before Taulier passed and that the lamps had been placed in position in the interim. This explanation is the only one that the Court can accept.

DEMANDS OF PUBLIC SECURITY.

In order to reach the desired aim, which is to prevent possible accident it is important not to wait until complete darkness before taking the necessary precautionary measures; that, with the practical impossibility of fixing day by day the exact time or between daylight and darkness, terms much too generously employed in the regulations, the department concerned should have taken precautions in advance, as prescribed, for example for vehicles by Article 34 of the police regulations. The Municipal Administration, justly famed for the care it has shown in safeguarding the interest of residents in the French Concession, owes it to itself and to its reputation to see that public security is assured in the most extreme and the least probable eventualities as instanced in the present case where most unexpected circumstances are united by a most unfortunate chance. Although the necessary instructions were doubtless given, they were not, as a matter of fact, carried out sufficiently promptly, since some minutes elapsed between the time of Smeaton's accident and the proper lighting of the stones.

On the other hand, Smeaton made too great a haste and, without doubt, could have avoided, with greater care, an obstacle which his companion Holder had been able to distinguish from a distance of from 2 to 2½ metres and it is even permissible to ask oneself whether the accident would not have happened, lights or no lights. It would, nevertheless, be an excessive demand on the part of a public body to expect passers-by to be on the continual *qui vive* for, in that case, the precautions insisted upon by the regulations would be useless. Even if walking constitutes the usual method of progression on the pathway, the act of running to catch a tramcar cannot be condemned unless such an action interferes with the general use of the said pathway.

THE AUTHORITIES RESPONSIBLE.

Is these circumstances, the responsibility for Smeaton's fall must largely fall upon the Municipal authorities whose instructions, perhaps because they were given too late, were not carried out sufficiently promptly.

For these reasons, the Municipal Council, in the person of its representative M. Legendre, is condemned to pay:—

1.—To the claimant, acting in her personal name, the sum of Tls. 6,000.

2.—To Marjorie I. Smeaton and Alfred James Laurence Smeaton, minor children of the deceased, the sum of Tls. 8,000 *i.e.* Tls. 4,000 to each, the said sums to be paid to the claimant as trustee of the said children.

The expenses of the present case will be defrayed by the defence.

THE POMEROY CASE

Charge of Assault Dismissed

At the U. S. Court Commissioner's Court on Saturday, P. F. Pomeroy, of 33 Kiangse Road, was found not guilty by Mr. F. J. Schuhl of the charge of assaulting a ricsha coolie.

In giving judgement, the Commissioner said he could not find sufficient evidence to enter a conviction. All the evidence called by the prosecution was rather conflicting, while the police had said that they knew nothing of the affair. The only important evidence against defendant had been that given by Mr. Thompson and the coolie. They both contradicted each other on very material points. Another witness, Mr. Hanson, stated that he had been with Pomercy at the time the supposed assault occurred. The defendant had also stated that he was at home. In view of the obvious doubt, his Honour was obliged to find the defendant not guilty.

Mr. Tycho Wing, for defendant, applied for costs on the grounds that the proceedings had not been instituted by the police or any authority, but by people who apparently had got or raised means enough to bring the action.

The Commissioner (to counsel) —I think your procedure is a little different. I cannot allow costs of the defence to be paid by the prosecution.

AN UNGRATEFUL FRIEND

A Gold Watch Misappropriated

Another sentence accompanied by deportation was imposed at the Mixed Court on a Russian last week, when Mr. Ivanoff and Magistrate Li had before them E. Shmarovin, of 35 North Honan Road Extension, upon a charge of misappropriation. It was alleged by the complainant, M. Dranishnikoff, that he entrusted Shmarovin with a gold watch valued at $150, which he had fraudulently sold, converting the money to his own use.

Complainant, in evidence, said that the defendant was in poor circumstances. Witness and his friends wanted to help him to get to Vladivostok. The only means that suggested themselves were that he should try to raise money on witness' own watch. The watch was a valuable one. Defendant was entrusted with it solely on the understanding that he should hand to its owner the balance of the sale money, when the cost of a passage had been deducted therefrom. Defendant was also given a smoking jacket. He had sold it, as well, and pocketed the total proceeds. He had been seen trying to leave for Nanking, and his arrest applied for.

Accused, who admitted his guilt, was sentenced to two months' imprisonment, the bench ordering, as stated above, that afterwards he be deported to Vladivostok. The property could not be recovered unless its former owner paid $65 to the person to whom it was sold.

A LEVY ON BOATMEN

Exemplary Sentence for Extortion

Remarking that he had formerly been sentenced the two years' imprisonment for a similar offence, the Mixed Court bench on Friday last decided to impose an exemplary punishment of four years on an old offender, charged with extorting money from boatmen.

He was stated by Det.-Sgt. Conduit to have gone on board the boats employed in transporting stone from the Municipal quarries. On one occasion the defendant was accompanied by six men. He asked for money and when refused, declared that he would cause all the cargo to be precipitated into the creek.

A wharf watchman said on that one evening three men came on to the boat. They asked for the boatmaster. On being told he was not on board, all of these undesirables slept there for the night. When the master returned he gave the defendant 60 cents. Another witness said that defendant repeatedly asked for some "cigarette money."

Four previous convictions were proved against the man.

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COAST OFFICERS' SALARIES

Test Case Brought in Shanghai under Hongkong Arbitration Award

Allegations of a breach by a shipping company of the terms of the Hongkong Arbitration Award were made by the China Coast Officers' Guild, the plaintiffs in an action against the San Peh S. N. Co., heard by Mr. Blackburn and Magistrate Li at the Mixed Court on Saturday. Defendants were also sued for $930 by Mr. N. Grewhwe, who alleged that although he had been dismissed from their service, he was entitled to wages under the Hongkong Arbitration.

Mr. K. Newman appeared for the Guild and Mr. Grewhwe; Mr. L K Kentwell was for the defendants in both actions.

The Guild's petition alleges that defendants with other steamship companies on March 15, 1920, agreed to refer various questions at issue between them, and also one concerning an increase in the monthly salaries of masters and officers of ships with crews signed on under Shanghai or Hongkong articles, to John Owen Hughes and Nowell Lake Watson, arbitrators. By an award in writing made by these arbitrators on May 27 following, masters and officers were granted an increase in pay, and other benefits. Defendants, as admitted by them in writing, have on numerous occasions committed breaches of the award. They have, the petition asserts, reduced the pay of officers to lower rates than prescribed in the award. Plaintiffs therefore pray that the defendants shall pay to all masters and officers who are members of the plaintiff guild, the difference between pay actually received by officers and the rate of pay provided for and adjudged in the award.

Defendants contend that they are not bound by any such award as alleged, and that if any award has been made, they have had no notice thereof. It is untrue that the pay of officers has been reduced. All such have willingly signed on and are satisfied with the wages offered.

The bench said that this action was in the nature of a test case. As the claim brought by Mr. Grewhwe against the steamship company might possibly stand or fall by whatever decision was rendered, it would be advisable to adjourn his case.

Mr. Newman then produced correspondence to show that the defendants were a party to the Hongkong Arbitration, although later on they denied this. In letters to plaintiffs' lawyer they had denied and acknowledged participation in the Arbitration in the same breath. One letter read by counsel was a communication addressed to Capt. Doyle, stating that the defendant company would conform to the schedule of wages agreed upon, if the company's officers would resume work and sail as per schedule, a strike being on at that time. Then defendants sent letters to their employees asking them to conform to the old schedule, inasmuch as the unhealthy state of the shipping business made it impossible for the company to pay the wages laid down by the arbitration.

As a witness for the plaintiffs was not available the hearing was adjourned.

CLAIM AGAINST NEW WORLD

Foreclosure of Mortgage

Judgement for plaintiffs was given by Magistrate Tsang and Capt. R. Ferrajolo (Italian Assessor) at the Mixed Court on Monday in the action between Messrs. Burkhardt Amidani & Co. and the New World Co. The former claimed the right to sell at public auction securities they alleged to be holding under a mortgage deed registered at the Italian Consulate. The directors of the New Work, supported by the Tobacco Products Corporation (who claimed to be the assignees of a claim of a certain Loh against the defendants) did not oppose the application for sale in itself. Defendants did, however, request additional notice, and sale after the Chinese New Year.

The Bench found:—

(a) That the plaintiffs are entitled according to the mortgage deed to foreclose the mortgage whenever its covenants are broken and that they are then at liberty to sell at auction whenever they desire; (b) That the plaintiffs being the mortgagees in possession are secured creditors and as such entitled to sell without interference by the official receiver; (c) That a reserved price may be fixed by defendants for the sale of the property which involves a considerable amount of money.

Therefore, plaintiffs are authorized to sell by public auction the whole business and property of the New World Co. which they hold, provided the mortgage is not redeemed in the meanwhile. A reserved price may be fixed by the defendants on the condition that a sum of Tls. 1,000 be deposited in Court by the directors of the defendant company within seven days from the date hereof as security to cover the extra expenses which may have to be incurred should the auction with a reserved price result in failure.

If the first attempt to sell should result in failure, another reserve price may be fixed for the second and last time, provided that another sum of Tls. 1,000 be deposited in Court within seven days from the first auction as security to cover the expenses, should the second attempt to sell result in failure.

Whenever if the said directors of the defendant company should fail to put up within the times as above prescribed the cash securities for either the first or second auction referred to, or should the second auction with reserved price result in failure, plaintiffs shall proceed with the auction without any other limit of price.

Messrs. Musso & Fischer were for plaintiffs and Messrs. Teesdale, Godfrey and Newman represented the defendants.

AN "AMERICAN-GREEK" IN TROUBLE

In Custody with Reference to a Korean's Mysterious Disappearance

Describing himself as an "American Greek," residing at the Burlington Hotel, G. A. Loverdos was charged before Magistrate Kuan and Mr. Tenney at the Mixed Court on Tuesday, with threatening to kill Mrs. Devin at No. 36 Nanking Road last Thursday. At the conclusion of the hearing, Det-Insp. Reeves pressed for a remand in custody. He said that he had been instructed by the Commissioner of Police to ask that the defendant be held by the police as he was suspected of having been concerned in the disappearance of a Korean in January, 1918. The police might have to prefer a very serious charge against the accused, said the officer.

Major C. P. Holcomb appeared to prosecute; Mr. Kentwell was for the defence.

ALLEGED THREAT TO KILL.

In his opening statement, Major Holcomb said that the defendant and prosecuting witness had been in business together for about four years, for most of that period at Hankow. The business was carried on in the name of the complaining witness, at No. 127 Szechuen Road. Mrs. Devin had decided to return to her home. Defendant had objected to this and threatened to kill her in the Chocolate Shop, Nanking Road. She had been in fear of her life. As she was expecting to leave for America within the next few days, she had no desire to see the defendant in gaol for a lengthy term, but she wished to be protected against any proposed act of violence on his part until she should be able to sail for home.

Mrs. Devin, examined by her counsel, said she was running an import and export commission agency in Shanghai and Hankow. She had been in business with the accused for four years. On several occasions defendant had threatened to shoot her, the last time being when he with Mrs. Anderson and witness were taking tiffin together at the Chocolate Shop on Thursday.

"I do not know what started him off, but he (defendant) began to rave at me," said Mrs. Devin. "He shouted that he was going to shoot me, and put five bullet holes through me. I sat there for a few minutes and went away."

Cross-examined by Mr. Kentwell, witness said defendant had

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objected to her going to parties in Shanghai. She had asked him what "jurisdiction" he had over her.

A "LOVER'S QUARREL."

Mr. Kentwell—I put it to you that this is really a case of a lover's quarrel?

Witness (indignantly)—He claimed that he was in love with me, but I do not know why.

Counsel—During the last four years when you were both in business together, he treated you very liberally?

Witness—The money all went through my name and my bank. He had to turn all the money over to me. It was my company.

Counsel—When the defendant used the alleged threats against you, both of you, I think, were intoxicated?

Witness—Certainly not. I had three cocktails at the Astor House. He had eight, I think.

When counsel asked witness whether she had expressed a desire to resume her former occupation, and added that defendant objected strongly to her taking this course, Mrs. Devin replied, "What do you mean."

Mr. Kentwell then wrote out a question which was handed to the bench and to Mrs .Devin.

Answering a further question, witness said defendant once had a revolver. She supposed it would be quite easy for him to become possessed of another.

At this stage Mr. Kentwell asked the bench if they would accept his responsibility that the defendant would keep the peace.

Major Holcomb—Is this an offer of a plea of guilty before I have proved my case?

After some discussion, counsel for complainant agreed to this course, as long as the defendant would be bound over in at least $5,000. Major Holcomb said he would agree to a smaller bond when Mrs. Devin had left Shanghai.

CASES TO BE CLEARED UP.

Det.-Insp. Reeves—Since 1917 the police have known the defendant. He has been away from Shanghai for three or four years. There are certain cases that have not been cleared up, including the disappearance of a Korean. I have instructions to ask that the accused be held in custody. If the allegations against him are true, they are of a very serious nature, including one of murder. In 1918 a Korean in company with the defendant and Mrs. Devin mysteriously disappeared from Shanghai.

At this stage the proceedings were adjourned, defendant being remanded in custody.

DR. Solf, the German Minister to Japan, who prior to the war held the position in Berlin of Colonial Secretary, is paying a visit to China before going home on a trip lasting six months. He has announced that the object of his visit to Germany is to explain the trade situation in the Far East to his countrymen.

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NEWS FROM THE MUNICIPAL GAZETTE

SHANGHAI, MAY 19, 1922

Summary of some of the matters considered and decisions reached at the meeting of the Council held on Wednesday, May 17, 1922.

1. *The Minutes of the Council meeting of May 10.* Confirmed.

2. *The Minutes of the Watch Committee meeting of May 8.* Confirmed.

(*A*) *Private Detective Agencies.*—Correspondence in reference to the registration of such agencies considered, and recommendation made that no further action should be taken for the present. The correspondence will be published.

(*B*) *Prison Accommodation for Foreign Female Convicts and Accommodation of Reformatory Boys.*—Recommendation made that accommodation should be provided:

For Foreign Female Convicts, temporarily at least in the Female Gaol in the French Settlement, if suitable arrangements can be made to this end with the French Settlement Authorities, or failing this at the Mixed Court as at present but subject to improvement of existing conditions.

For Reformatory Boys,

(*a*) temporarily in the Gaol in the event of a renewal of the lease of the Reformatory in Tongshan Road being unobtainable (the agents for this property have given the Council notice that the property is for sale) and

(*b*) permanently in a new building to be erected on the Gaol extension site.

(*C*) *Point Hotel Licence.*—Transfer of this licence, held by Mr. Richmond, now bankrupt, to Mr. E. H. Baker of Messrs. Seth, Mancell & McClure, Official Mixed Court Accountants, approved, on the basis that a temporary licence for the season will be issued, on the understanding that full responsibility for the conduct of the premises is accepted by this firm.

(*D*) *Overcrowding of Trams.*—After reviewing the consideration given to this question on several previous occasions, the difficulties involved and the decisions reached, members recommend,

(1) That the drivers platform on all cars be so arranged as to separate the drivers entirely from passengers and that the Tramway Company be called upon to take the necessary steps to this end.

(2) That should experience show that the safety doors or similar devices, which are to be provided in the case of new rolling stock, are really effective, the Tramway Company should be called upon to fit same on all rolling stock.

(3) That a Notification be issued (*a*) directing attention to Traffic Regulation No. 32 that "No person shall stand or sit on or otherwise occupy the footboard of a vehicle in motion on a highway," and (*b*) giving warning of the Council's intention to prosecute all those disregarding this Regulation.

(*E*) *Charges for Attendance of Fire Brigade at fires Outside Limits,* members recommend:—

(1) Approval of proposed schedule of charges.

(2) Approval of principle of payment of a percentage of such charges into a Brigade Recreation Fund.

(3) That no charge be made for services of Brigade in respect of premises on which the Outside Limits rate (Special Rate) is paid.

(4) Approval of principle that Brigade should not attend fires Outside Limits unless Special Rate is paid, except when owners of property concerned have previously signed undertaking that in event of fire they would like attendance of Brigade and make payment of scale charges in force. The procedure to be adopted in this connexion is settled.

(5) Approval of the same principle and procedure as in No. 4 above in case of shipping fires.

(6) That in absence of undertaking above referred to Brigade should nevertheless attend fires when in discretion of Chief Officer, attendance is desirable with view to protection of Settlement interests.

(*F*) *Chief Officer's Leave and Leave Itinerary.*—Approved.

(*G*) *Smoking in Theatres.*—It is decided to exercise the licensing powers and prohibit smoking in places of public entertainment.

Lyceum Theatre.—Vide correspondence published elsewhere in this Gazette.

3.—The Minutes of the Watch Committee meeting of May 12. Confirmed.

Tavern Licences.—Recommendations that applications by,

(*a*) P. J. Doylend for 2nd class licence for No. 5 Boundary Road and (b) E. H. Scott for 3rd class licence for Nos. 491/3 Thibet Road be approved, subject to fire and structural reports as usual, but that the application by Mr. C. E. Eddie for a 2nd class licence for No. 153 Broadway be disapproved in view of fact that the premises are within the "prohibited area."

4.—*Volunteer Corps.*—Appointments published elsewhere in this Gazette approved.

Sir Edward Pearce—Decoration by Chinese Government.—The Secretary and Commissioner General reports that on behalf of General Ho Feng-ling, Military Governor, Mr. S. K. Chen of the Bureau of Foreign Affairs, has handed to him the Chia Ho decoration of the 4th Grade, conferred by the Chinese Government on Sir Edward on General Ho's recommendation, in recognition of Sir Edward's co-operation with the local Chinese authorities during his tenure of office as Chairman of Council. Members record appreciation of the honour conferred on Sir Edward and direct that their congratulations be conveyed to him.

Water Supply.—File is submitted containing letter from the Waterworks Company in continuation of the correspondence published on pages 233A to 250A of the Annual Report for 1921, reports by the Chief Officer of the Fire Brigade, the Acting Commissioner of Public Works and the Treasurer and Comptroller and comments by the Secretary and Commissioner General. Members note that there are still points of very considerable importance outstanding upon which no agreement has yet been reached, and they record the view that it would be desirable again to give consideration to the desirability of the Council purchasing the Company's water supply undertaking in accordance with the provision made to this end in the Waterworks agreement of 1905. This question was referred to the Special Waterworks Committee appointed in 1918, but owing to the then financial conditions, the Committee recommended that the matter should be deferred until such time as the purchase, if recommended, would be possible. Members decide to refer the matter back to this Special Committee for report in accordance with the terms of Resolution VII passed at the Annual Meeting of Ratepayers on March 27, 1918.

The meeting adjourned at 5.40 p.m.

Volunteer Corps.

Machine Gun Company.—

Company Sergeant-Major A. W. Hayward to be 2nd Lieut.

Sergeant J. Snodgrass to be 2nd Lieut.

Driver J. W. Hawkings to be 2nd Lieut. (Transport Officer).

Driver R. B. Roach to be 2nd Lieut. (Transport Officer).

Chinese Company.—

Capt. G. Grayrigge is transferred to Corps Headquarters as adviser on Chinese Company matters.

Lieut. T. A. Zee to be Captain.

Lyceum Theatre.

Correspondence is published between the Municipal Council, the Chief Officer of the Fire Brigade, the Amateur Dramatic Club and the Lyceum Theatre Trustees relating to the adequate fire protection

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of audience and performers at the Lyceum Theatre, leading up to the following requirements made by the Municipal Council:

Shanghai, May 17, 1922.

SIR,—I am directed to inform you that your letter of February 10, together with the later correspondence between you and the Chief Officer in reference to the alterations to be made to the Lyceum Theatre to render it reasonably safe in the case of an outbreak of fire, have been laid before and carefully considered by the Watch Committee and full Council.

In view of your representations and in their desire not to call for more alteration than is really necessary for the protection of the public, members of the Watch Committee personally visited and thoroughly inspected the Theatre on Thursday, April 27, giving particular consideration to the requirements stated in the report of the Chief Officer of the Fire Brigade set out *in extenso* in the Council's letter to you of November 29, 1921. As a result they came to the unanimous conclusion that nothing short of complete reconstruction could possibly render the Theatre ideal, though the reasonable requirements of public safety could be met by the carrying out of the alterations set forth hereunder which are, it is to be noted, substantially the same as those recommended by the Chief Officer, which are in the main endorsed as essential in a separate report obtained by the Council from an independent insurance expert.

The alterations, it will be seen, are principally designed in the first place to provide an effective means for separating stage and auditorium in case of fire and secondly to improve the facilities for clearing the building in an emergency and thus to reduce the present very grave possibility of serious loss of life in such a case: they are as follows:—

Stage.—Fire proof curtain and new proscenium wall to be provided, with regulation ventilators in roof. Present openings in proscenium wall to be done away with when new wall built. Dressing rooms to be cut off from the auditorium by bricking up window openings, and additional means of egress to be provided. Proper egress to be provided from flies. Cookhouse and sleeping quarters under stage to be removed. Sprinkler system with drenchers for fire proof curtain desirable though not absolutely essential.

Auditorium.—Stage boxes on circle and gallery floors to be removed. Outside seats in four front rows of stalls to be removed. Safety catches to be fixed to all spring doors. Curtains at foot of stairs leading to circle to be removed.

Gallery.—Staging and seating to be entirely re-constructed. Fire escape on north side, which serves gallery and circle to be protected. Entrance to private quarters to be blocked up, since in the case of fire, egress through this door would inevitably be sought with disastrous results. Safety catches to be fixed to all spring doors.

Circle.—Fire balcony to be provided for the wings to staircase on the south side, and fire escape on the north. (The principle of a staircase common to both gallery and circle is condemned, and in the event of fire would almost inevitably result in very serious loss of life.) The South staircase to be reconstructed of fire re-resisting materials. Action be taken to remedy the danger which the existing tier arrangements of seats at the back of the circle presents, in that in the event of a rush to get out someone would almost certainly slip down between the gangway, which should be wider, and the lower tier of seats, causing others to fall and obstruct the exit with serious loss of life. Safety catches to be fixed to all spring doors.

Members fully realize that the cost of constructing the new pro scenium wall and curtain will be very considerable. At the same time from the inspection of the Theatre carried out by the Watch Committee, whose recommendations in the matter have been carefully considered and unanimously endorsed by the full Council, it was apparent that conditions are such that the Theatre cannot be rendered reasonably safe unless these and the other requirements referred to above are carried out.

If members could possibly see their way to meet you by making their conditions less onerous, they would be only too glad to do so, but, having regard to the very grave responsibility which rests upon them to take such steps as they are advised—and as they are convinced—are absolutely necessary to render the premises reasonably safe, they have, as the Licensing Authority, no possible alternative. Nevertheless should you, or should the new Lyceum Theatre Trustees, to whom a copy of this letter has been addressed, have any further views which you or they would like to submit, the Council will of course give them every possible consideration. In the meantime, however, the Theatre must, it is regretted, be closed to the public, in view of the fact that in its present condition, any fire therein would almost certainly be attended with serious loss of life.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
N. O. LIDDELL,
Secretary and Commissioner General.

The HON. SECRETARY,
Shanghai Amateur Dramatic Club.

Educational Department.

Cambridge Local Examinations.—From the Public School for Boys, there were entered 51 Candidates of whom 30 passed, 2 with honours—one class II and one Class III, and five marks of distinction were gained. The following is a list of the successful students:—

Seniors: E. B. Cumine
Juniors: Honours Class II
s. R. M. Noblston
Honours Class III
s. P. I. Chaichek
Passed (under 16).
s.b. N. Haimovitch
B. B. Joseph
s. A. Noblston (over 16).
J. Abraham
C. N. Brown
H. R. E. Keyserling
C. H. Mahon
E. H. Shekury
P. Tarassoff

Preliminaries:
J. R. Arthur
J. Berents
H. G. Fabian
C. J. A. Gray
J. Greiner
B. Godkin
E. L. Harrison
R. H. Hutchinson
C. J. Jack
I. H. Jacob
J. M. Johnson
H. P. E. A. Keyserling
D. C. Moses
E. Parker
J. Smith
M. Spiegler
A. Subbatovsky
H. H. Tod.

s. denotes that the candidates to whose names it is prefixed were distinguished in Religious Knowledge.

b. denotes that the candidates to whose names it is prefixed were distinguished in Book-keeping.

Municipal Staff.

Fire Brigade.—Long leave is granted to Mr. M. W. Pett, Chief Officer, from May 20.

Return of Communicable Disease.

Reported during the week ending Sunday, May 14, 1922.	Cases notified among Foreign resident population of 24,700	Deaths among Chinese resident population of 790,000
Small-pox	0	0
Cholera	0	0
Typhoid Fever	0	—
Paratyphoid Fever	0	—
Diphtheria	1	6
Scarlet Fever	1	7
Tuberculosis	0	18
Plague	0	0
Dysentery	0	3
Measles	0	6
Total Deaths from all Causes	3	178

C. NOEL DAVIS,
Acting Commissioner of Public Health.

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Police Report for April.

Robbery.—During the month reports were received of five armed robberies from dwelling houses, one of which was accompanied by murder, and two armed highway robberies. Seven persons have been arrested in connexion with these cases and are at present under remand. Three reports of highway robbery, in which no arms were used, were also received and resulted in the arrest and conviction of six persons.

Of sixteen persons arrested for armed robbery committed prior to April 1, three have been remitted to the Court of the Military Governor, two sentenced to imprisonment and eleven are at present awaiting trial. Two persons arrested on a charge of being members of a band of robbers were expelled from the Settlement.

Of the twelve persons referred to in my report for March as being under remand on charges of robbery, five have been remitted to the Court of the Military Governor, four sentenced to imprisonment and two expelled, while the charge against one was not proceeded with.

Serious Crime.—Reports of crime of a more than usually serious nature which occurred during the month include a case of stabbing and robbery in Bing Vong Ka on April 14, the attempted murder of a wealthy Chinese who was fired at and wounded on Thibet Road on April 17, the murder of a coolie who occupied a house off Yuchow Road on April 18 and the murder of a Chinese mill fore-woman whose body was found covered with wounds on April 21 in a field off Kiaochow Road. Four arrests have been made in connexion with these reports.

Threatening Letters.—Six Cantonese were arrested on April 8 as the result of investigations made regarding a threatening letter sent to a house in East Yuhang Road. Three were sentenced to three years' imprisonment with expulsion and three to expulsion only.

Smuggling Firearms.—Five Japanese and eleven Chinese were arrested, who amongst them were responsible for the illegal importation of 34 Mauser pistols and 3,400 rounds of ammunition. Four of the Chinese were sentenced to one year's imprisonment each, six were ordered to sign bonds and the case against one was dismissed. Of the Japanese arrested, one was sentenced to 29 days' imprisonment, one to 20 days and three were fined 10 yen each.

Property Stolen.—302 reports made under this heading during the month include 16 cases of burglary, 6 of house breaking, 2 of godown-breaking, 1 of office-breaking and 2 of shop-breaking. In 131 of the reports received investigation was made with successful results.

The return shows a decrease of 77 compared with the figures for the previous month.

Crime beyond Settlement limits.—Three cases of murder and twenty-one of robbery and piracy were reported during the month from places under Chinese jurisdiction in the neighbourhood of Shanghai. In one instance the inmate of a house was killed and in another the members of a boat's crew were tortured by burning in order to make them reveal the whereabouts of valuables.

Traffic.—The classified comparative return of accidents coming under the notice of the police during the months of April 1921/1922 given hereunder presents one outstanding feature, namely, the marked increase in casualties due to persons attempting to board or alight from tramcars and trailers whilst in motion or falling off when travelling on the steps or platforms of these vehicles. Turning to the figures for the first four months of 1922, it will be seen that seven of the fatalities and seventy-seven cases of personal injury were the result of "Improper Riding" on tramway vehicles. The provision of "Safety Doors" running flush with the sides of the tramcar and trailer and automatically closing before the vehicle can start would, in my opinion, entirely prevent this type of accident.

In view of the very noticeable increase in congestion on the main thoroughfares of the Settlement due to the heavy increase in the number of pedestrians and vehicles using them, it is satisfactory to report that for the four months ending April 30, 1922 the total number of accidents occurring was but ten in excess of the number during the corresponding period of 1921. It is believed that this result is in some measure due to the campaign, still in its infancy, on which the police have embarked of distributing and posting literature having for its object the education of the Chinese pedestrian, ricsha puller, etc., as to the dangers run in moving about the streets heedless of the consequence that may result through neglect of the most elementary rules of the road and traffic regulations.

ACCIDENTS

	April 1922. Total Accidents	Persons Injured	Persons Killed
Trams	50	30	2
Motor vehicles	105	57	6
Other vehicles	66	28	0
Total	221	115	8

	April 1921. Total Accidents	Persons Injured	Persons Killed
Trams	21	16	0
Motor vehicles	99	36	7
Other vehicles	47	9	1
Total	167	61	8

Improper riding on Trams included in above :—

	April 1922	April 1921
Killed	2	0
Injured	29	11

Return for first four months 1921 *and* 1922.

	1922	1921
Total accidents	826	816
Persons killed	30	22
Persons injured	376	353

Improper riding on Trams included in above :—

	1922	1921
Killed	7	1
Injured	77	59

1. *Return of foreigners and Chinese summoned or apprehended and charged during the Month of April,* 1922.

	Foreigners	Chinese	Total
(1) *Offences against the person :—*			
Allowing children in brothels		1	1
Assault	5	47	52
Attempted suicide		8	8
Abduction		5	5
Causing grievous bodily harm	1	15	16
Intimidation		1	1
Kidnapping		4	4
Malicious Prosecution		2	2
Manslaughter		1	1
Rape		1	1
Various		5	5
(2) *Offences against property :—*			
Burglary		19	19
Cruelty to animals		6	6
Embezzlement		6	6
False pretences		5	5
Forgery		3	3
Fraud	2	4	6
Godown breaking		2	2
Housebreaking		3	3
Larceny		224	224
Larceny from person	1	46	47
Malicious damage		1	1
Obtaining money by threats		20	20
Receiving stolen property		8	8
Robbery, armed		20	20
Robbery, highway		10	10
Shop and office breaking		1	1
Various		2	2
(3) *Offences of a Public Nature :—*			
Breach of Licensing Bye-laws or of License conditions respecting :—			
(*a*) Brothels		11	11
Dairies		6	6
Dogs		5	5
Food		36	36
Firearms	5	12	17
Hawkers		224	224
Hotels (Lodging and Boarding houses)		8	8
Livery stables		1	1
Motor Vehicles	17	130	147
Opium and noxious drugs		27	27
Pawnshops		4	4
Vehicles (various)		1,686	1,686
Wines and spirits		1	1
Various		6	6
Garage	1		1
Breach of other Municipal Bye-laws and Regulations respecting :—			
(*b*) Fireworks		2	2
House refuse		45	45
Indecent advertisements		1	1
Nuisances		1,291	1,291
Prostitutes		25	25
Traffic		1,484	1,484
Various		2	2
Miscellaneous :—			
(*c*) Begging and ragpicking		2	2
Coin, uttering counterfeit		3	3
Contempt of Court		1	1
Disorderly conduct		163	163
Drunk, disorderly, etc.	11		11
Gambling		224	224
Loitering with intent		9	9
Obstruction		456	456
Opium, possession of smuggled		76	76
Returning after expulsion order		10	10
Trafficking in women and children		5	5
(4) *Other Miscellaneous Cases :—*			
Absentees and deserters		1	1
Insanity		2	2
Seeking protection of Door of Hope		3	3
Stray, ill-treated and kidnapped children		2	2
Various	2	6	8
Smoking opium, etc.		80	80
Totals	45	6,520	6,565

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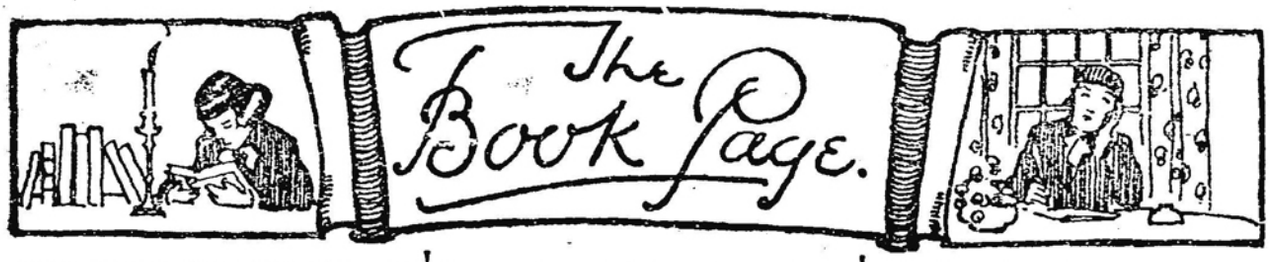

THE SPLENDID LANGUAGE OF CHINA

A New Book for Foreign Instruction

CHINESE GRAMMAR SELF TAUGHT. By John Darroch, LITT. D., O.B.E. London: E. Marlborough & Co., Old Bailey, E. C. 4, 1922. Wrapper 6/-, cloth 7/6.

We are always glad to welcome anything new on the study of the Chinese language, and this book is new. It is intended to exhibit the structure of the language in terms of grammar that European readers will readily understand. "Western Students," says the author, "have neither the familiarity with the classics nor the phenomenal memories of Chinese Scholars. Consequently, the Chinese language often seems to them an amorphous collection of words and phrases which individually or collectively connote certain meaning, not because these ideas are inherent in the phrases used, but because custom decrees that a certain combination of words shall denote a certain meaning, but which did custom so decree, might just as well mean something entirely different. This notion is, however, quite erroneous and a study of the following pages will, it is hoped, convince the student that the Chinese language is as definite as our own, and so conduce to the pleasure with which he pursues the study of this most interesting tongue."

ORIGIN AND STRUCTURE.

A condensed statement of the origin and structure of the Chinese language begins the study in this volume—pictograms, indicators, indicated meanings, phonetic symbols, etc. Then follow the Radicals and Twenty-two Lessons. A Chinese English Dictionary consisting of 3,000 characters under each Radical makes up the book which contains 150 pages. Very good indeed—one of the best since Prof. Hirth prepared his *Ju men* on the "Chinese Documentary Style." If every foreigner who comes to China and who has the leisure and the barest modicum of literary taste, would only take up this convenient little *résumé* of what the Chinese language really is, we trow there would be more interest taken in the literature and customs of this people. Here are Chinese characters staring us in the face every day, which express the mature thought of people who lived thousands of years ago and who felt as we feel. These characters mutely demand recognition from us and yet most of the Europeans in China have not even a nodding acquaintance with them! Not so the Chinese who emigrate to our shores!—Even those who do not leave China manifest an almost feverish desire to learn English. There are only 10,000 characters in Giles' Dictionary, and one has only to learn 2,713 to read the New Testament. And this book will give the student a good start and create in him a desire for more.

In every department of business the foreigner soon learns that the Chinese with whom be deals, tries to squeeze every bit of English he can out of him. He is erudite enough to perceive that a knowledge of English will secure him a better position and more pay. How much more should Westerners learn in China, where the language is spoken by all around us and the characters on the shops, in the newspapers,—everywhere dare us to master them with a glaring insistence! Now here is a book written by one who has had the fortitude and perseverance to prepare a good grammar that the ordinary man on the street can master more easily than golf or chess.

THE ENGLISH SPELLING.

But we do not like the English spelling of the characters in this grammar. D. and G. for unaspirated words do not express the exact sound. Why not follow the method used so long and now crystallized especially in the names of places? How ungainly Nanging, Chingiang, Kwangdung, look when compared with Nanking, Chinkiang, Kuangtung! And when it is stated on page 34, that there is no sign of the plural, we recall what Prof. Hirth says about 等類輩. However, these are just exceptions that prove the general verdict. A capital book to whet the appetite for further investigation in the splendid language of the Chinese, and one that will enable the foreigner to get on better terms with the Chinese around him and thus make life in the Orient more pleasant and profitable.

S. I. W.

BRILLIANT SHORT STORIES

THE GARDEN PARTY.—By Katherine Mansfield. London: Constable & Co. Pp. 276. 7s. 6d.

Miss Katherine Mansfield's latest book is bound to be a joy to the literary craftsman: there is a brilliant play of technique on every page. She rides triumphantly over the most difficult of all the writers' courses—which is the short-story course; more, she goes out of her way, it seems, to hunt out all the challenging jumps. She has the modern artist's love of conniving at a technical problem for the sheer joy of getting round at dexterously.

A story like "Miss Brill" tackles a problem in craft as fascinating to writers as Chardin's white table cloth against a white background is fascinating to painters. In "Miss Brill" Miss Mansfield tries, and ever so successfully, to suggest a glittering, animated afternoon in the Jardins Publique, not by "objective" scene-painting—device now considered hopelessly old-fashioned with writers of the period—but by looking at it through the eyes of Miss Brill. But Miss Brill—and here is the point of this triumphant knocking down of a technical obstacle put up by the artist—is a pitiful little women whose faded lonefiness in life, contrasted with her gay setting and the illusion that she is sensitively at the heart of her setting, causes the irony which is the story's main point. Miss Mansfield has a rather precious gift for showing you a scene through a character's eyes and yet keeping it all cool and keen-edged. And so we seem to have a more than common subtlety in Miss Mansfield's insistence on ironic connexions between people and the places they live in.

In "An Ideal Family," again, a fine irony comes from the fact that it is through old Mr. Neave's own tired eyes that we see the young people in his house tremendously alive, and, to him, antagonistically alive. A method more deft than Miss Mansfield's, indeed, would be hard to find in all short-story writing. She has a speedy prose style, but it is rarely falsely directed. Usually every word is as a nail hit confidently on the head.

Her taste for "what is not done" in good writing nowadays is so sure that one fails to understand how this passage got into her book at all: "Josephine had not a moment of absolute terror at the cemetery, while the coffin was lowered, to think that she and Constantia had done this thing without asking his permission. What would father say when he found out? For he was bound to find out sooner or later. He always did. 'Buried! You two girls had me *buried*!' She heard his stick thumping." Also this sentence appears on page 126: "She remembered the time she had come in here, crept out of bed in her nightgown when the moon was full, and lain on the floor with her arms outstretched, as though she was crucified. Why? The big pale moon had made her do it."

But criticism would be foolish to doubt Miss Mansfield's skill and sense of the finely literary. What it is at liberty to ask, though, is whether her method is not just a little too triumphant for her way

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of looking at the world. An irony that is even the slightest conscious of its own exquisite edge is hardly a poetic irony, and Miss Mansfield's irony, one imagines, was intended to awaken a poetic reaction in the reader. These stories probably contain more of pity than went into "Bliss," but the present writer feels often that Miss Mansfield has supplied it now much as a cook adds his flavourings—that is, towards a calculated end, as an ingredient likely to make the dish one of finer quality. If one has read these stories intelligently, pity has been mingled with irony in them quite as much because Miss Mansfield's critical sense demnaded pity for the sake of her art's balance as because her contemplation of life has forced it out of her. It would be a vast relief to feel sure a writer of Miss Mansfield's sensibility was in no danger of dropping into that professionalism in writing which easily gets preoccupied with putting life into so many "arrangements," all of them sent from a point of view merely habitual. — N.C. in the "Manchester Guardian."

A NEW EXCHANGE TABLE

A Compact Method

"All In One" Exchange Tables by S. Kriger. At all book-sellers. Mex. $8. 1922.

Exchange tables are dry-as-dust reading but they are almost as ubiquitous as the hong list. Though calculating machines have made considerable headway in recent years a good exchange table offers advantages to the casual user that calculating machines cannot, for the exchange table is compact, cheap and does not demand any special mental ability in obtaining equivalents of one currency in another.

The "All in One" Exchange Tables which have just been published strike out an entirely new line. Without demanding any more calculation than the usual type the compiler of these tables has lit upon a very ingenious idea for cutting out the constant repetitions that are a feature of the old fashioned type. The book is of a handy size and in one opening covers 16 different sterling exchanges, rising by sixteenths, for conversion into local currency, with a range from 1d. up to £1,000,000 Examples of working are given on each page so that mistakes are hardly possible, and the thumb indices facilitate reference to the various exchanges which are dealt with in the book. These exchanges are as follows:—

Sterling into local currency.
Gold dollars into local currency
Yen or Singapore dollars into local currency.
Francs into local currency
Rupees or guilders into local currency
Dollars into taels (and vice versa)

In his preface the compiler states that three different methods have been used in checking the calculations and in the examples which we have tested, running up to £100,000, the results are correct to a cent.

The book is printed on serviceable paper and is well bound in a strong cloth cover. It will, we feel sure, prove a very popular and useful adjunct to every office desk, and the ease with which it enables exchanges to be calculated in comparison with existing tables will make its success assured.

ROYAL COLONIAL INSTITUTE

A Fine London Library for Overseas Students

One of the most important libraries in London is that of the Royal Colonial Institute, situated in Northumberland Avenue. The report or the year 1921 indicates that steady progress has been made. The Library now contains over 150,000 volumes and pamphlets relating exclusively to the Overseas Dominions, Colonies and India, and to problems of colonization administration generally. Whilst intended primarily for use of the Fellows of the Institute, it is nevertheless extensively used by students and other inquiriers; and the Librarian points out that the Council is pursuing the wise and liberal policy of admitting *bona fide* students to its use. Thus all Rhodes scholars are made Honorary Fellows, while Overseas teachers residing in the United Kingdom are made free of the Library during their stay, a privilege which is also freely accorded to university and other students making special inquiries.

It will thus be seen what an important function the Library is performing by facilitating research upon Overseas matters in the centre of the Empire. It is pointed out in the report that students were admitted from such diverse countries as Australia, South Africa, Uganda, Canada, India, and other parts of the Empire, as well as from Texas, Japan, Norway, Belgium, and other foreign lands; and it may be remarked that all of these students were engaged upon some important work of research.

AIDS TO RESEARCH.

The Library is divided into several broad main sections, such as the Parliamentary Library containing all the official publications issued Overseas, Parliamentary Debates, Departmental Reports, and material of that nature; the Law Library containing the Statutes and Law Reports of the Overseas Empire; and a very important agricultural and trade section. All the chief commercial products are catalogued upon cards in order to facilitate rapid reference.

Although it may justly be claimed that this Library performs an unique function in supplying information and aiding research, which it is enabled to do out of its unrivalled resources, that is only one of the activities of the Royal Colonial Institute of which the Library is a part. During recent years great progress has been made on enlarging the scope of the work of the Institute and a feature that should specially appeal to Overseas residents is the attention that is now devoted to giving information upon commercial and industrial matters. Neither the Library nor the Royal Colonial Institute itself receives any financial support from the Imperial or Overseas Governments, but they all recognize the value of the work that is being done by supplying their official publications and reports.

RULES OF COURT

1905-1910

Made under

China Order-in-Council 1904-15;

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Price: $8 net.

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THE WOMAN'S PAGE

A NEW PROFESSION FOR CHINESE WOMEN

Amazing Work Done by Slide Colourists

By Elizabeth Pepys.

When Lucile Douglass, artist at large, was asked by Dr. Ralph A. Ward, China Secretary of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Methodist Episcopal Church, to leave New York for China to organize the lantern slide and colouring department of the China Centenary Movement, the proposal looked like a long jump to a strange field.

To create something out of nothing in a foreign land was a challenge that appealed to Miss Douglass. The Orient had long been beckoning to her and she accepted the invitation, only stipulating that she should work with Chinese women both because of her constant interest in the feminist movement and because of the limited occupational field hitherto open to women of the East.

A thorough artistic training and study under famous masters all over the United States and Europe, together with experience gained by helping to develop the colouring department of the Centenary in New York and Nashville, was all this organizer had to work with in coming to Shanghai. There was no department, no equipment, no tradition when she landed in August 1920 but by November of the same year a promising little workshop was tucked away under the eaves of a one-time residence at 4 Quinsan Gardens.

Anyone whose breath and courage do not fail him may find, after mounting three flights of stairs, a businesslike studio, or an artistic business office, which ever term you prefer (And here one may parenthetically remark that the animating spirit of this attic is one of those white blackbirds, an artist with a genius for organization.)

If you climb these stairs in winter you will discover a cosy fire blazing, with a long-nosed brass kettle singing on the hearth or in spring the breezes from the open dormer windows fan the big bowls of flowers that sit about the rooms. Always there is that sense of comradeship that working in a common craft produces. Slides are turned out in surprising quantities but there is no effect of drudgery, rather the satisfaction of artistic expression.

PRODUCING THE PERSONNEL.

In collecting her helpers Miss Douglass found some Chinese girls who had had elementary art training at St. Mary's and McTyeire School. In common with more advanced Chinese artists they could copy, but could not originate, which is hardly surprising when we realize that modern China has no art of its own but is still copying the art of 2,000 years ago. It was necessary first of all to build up their colour sense and this has been done largely through a colour lecture every morning and by practing these colour theories.

As is shown in our illustration, each colourist works at a case specially designed by a New York architect which gives the worker the same reaction as when the slide is put on the screen, with no change of colours whatever. A chemist prepares the dyes so that as nearly as is possible in slide work the hues are permanent.

Once the work was under way unexpected difficulties arose, largely due to climatic conditions. Slides would mildew and when sent out neatly attired would return without the bindings because dampness had loosened them. Now the slides are run through a baking machine which dries them nicely and they are immediately bound with a linen tape prepared specially for this climate.

Another problem not so easily solved was the lack of system which the Chinese girls evinced, and to get the department running efficiently was an arduous task. In this effort, however, Mrs. Yung, a niece of the Hon. Alfred Sze, was of great assistance because her family connexions and position as widow gave her authority to which the staff readily deferred. Most of the girls have now been in the work nearly two years and have advanced to the point where they make their own colour schemes.

THE PARABLE OF THE BRICK WALL.

Much individual attention is given these colourists and their special aptitudes recognized, some colouring landscapes best, others particularly happy at figure work. The ideal of the head of the department is the fullest possible development of each separate worker and the rule of the studio is that every slide must possess a distinct interest of colour. One black and white slide sent in was an uncompromising brick wall, most unaesthetic and uninspiring. Miss Douglass took that same stolid wall and presented it to her group as an exercise to call out all their technical training and artistic imagination, keeping them at it till every slide was a genuinely interesting picture.

COLOURISTS AND BINDERS.

Then there was the human problem of a young Chinese girl whose parents had given her years of training in a foreign School. She was still unfitted for a profession and they were unable to support her. At the request of a friend she was admitted to the department. For months in spite of her evident efforts she seemed unable to respond to the careful training given her. A conference with her Chief to see whether some other form of occupation would not be more congenial revealed that she was fitted for nothing else. "This seemed her one chance to make something of her life," said her teacher," so I kept on with the training till finally my backward pupil rewarded me by developing

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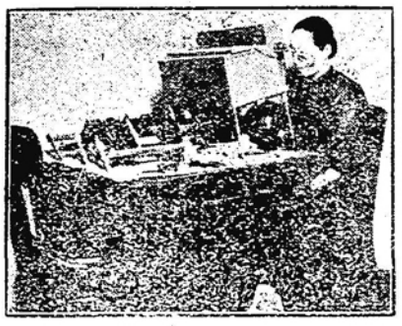
into one of the best colourists I have, and I am very grateful for this stone which the builder almost rejected."

"Frances," so christened because her Chinese name was particularly unpronounceable, is the youngest of the staff, ten years old by Chinese reckoning when she joined the department. She is now doing the work which a grown woman performed in New York, having learned enough English to inscribe the slides with the lecture and order numbers. She also has charge of the filing and superintends the work of



COLOURIST AT WORK.

two binders. Her ability has won her the opportunity for an education and next fall she will enter McTyeire School.

"I am very proud of the work turned out by my staff of seven colourists and three binders," said their Chief, "Every morning I inspect their work and no slide goes through the department without careful inspection which often serves as the text for the little lecture on colour which I give every morning. We average about 35 slides a day and in the nine

"FRANCES."

months since the last meeting of the Directing Committee have turned out over 6,000.

PICTURE LIBRARY OF CHINA.

"As soon as the department got into its stride it was plain that a photographic department of our own would be necessary. I therefore recommended that such a bureau be installed and accordingly about a year ago Mr. R. M. Vanderburgh took charge of this department, which has its quarters next door to ours. We now have a library of 3,800 negatives covering all quarters of China so that inspecting the slides is almost like taking a trip to the wilds of Szechuan, the interior of Hainan or some other out of the way corner which few people ever see.

"The lecture department of the Centenary releases at least one lecture with latern slide illustrations every month and these are sent all over China, particularly for Chinese audiences, reaching at a conservative estimate 40,000 people during a year. We take as many outside orders as is possible with our limited staff and colour many slides for people returning to America. We have done some interesting work this winter, for instance the slides for Mrs. Ayscough's lecture on Chinese Gardens, delivered before the Literary Section of the B. W. A., were coloured in our department.

"It has been a great satisfaction to see how these girls respond to art training. We are expecting to move into larger quarters and increase our staff, but I hope this whole work will be only the beginning of opportunities for work for girls in China and that its tendency will be to dignify labour and show women of the East that productive employment is not belittling but emancipating and cultural."

ATTRACTIVE DISHES

The Unexpected Guest and How to Feed Him

Now that the first warm days are luring people out into the country some out-of-town hostesses are wondering how best to provide for guests who "drop in" near mealtimes. Needless to say that hospitality is a delight and informal entertaining a particular pleasure, but it is as annoying to prepare a hot tiffin for the extra guests who do not appear as not to have enough for those who do. Hence those cold dishes which may be prepared beforehand and which will for the most part be available for the next day's menu if not requisitioned for the week-end are suggested.

A Well-made Potato Salad.

Cut thin slices, circular as the base of the dinner plates, off a rolled and spiced round of beef, or long slices off a brick of cold pressed beef; put with it a slice of tongue or ham, and pour over both a thin sheet of well-flavoured aspic jelly. Some attractive bits of lettuce on watercress and a radish or two should be cut into slices and imprisoned in the jelly.

Alternatively—some pieces of boiled chicken white in béchamel, on a mousse made of their own less delicate parts, with, perhaps, some purée of foie gras, with pale aspic and cold green beans, peas, or quarters of tomato for a garnish; or, best of all, with the half of an American pickled peach and some salad.

Cold ducks stuffed with a delicate mousse, cold chickens stuffed with rice made savoury with tomato or pimentos, or an uncut leg of lamb set round with little jelly castles of mint sauce made with aspic and chopped mint—these, together with a bowl of well-made potato salad, will deprive the visitor's bell of half its terrors.

Potato Salad.—Take kidney or the most waxy potatoes obtainable, boil in their skins, peel while warm, cut into thickish slices, pour on one tablespoonfuls vinegar and about two tablespoonfuls of stock, but very gradually, so that they may absorb it; add two tablespoonfuls of oil, some pepper and salt to taste, and one small finely chopped onion, and let it all stand for an hour before serving. A very thin mayonnaise sauce with a little French mustard and a drop or two of garlic vinegar and a few capers with parsley and chives may be used as an alternative dressing.

This cold Mousse of Whiting and Lobster (for six) is nice supper or warm weather luncheon dish.

Boil two good-sized whitings, and when cold pass through a fine wire sieve with a little cold salmon, and put it into a basin with salt, pepper, cream, and half a teacup of liquid aspic jelly. Line a brick-shaped or charlotte mould with aspic; when set, put in a layer of lobster cut in small pieces, then half fill with the fish mousse, then another layer of lobster, and fill up the mould with the rest of the fish, pour over a layer of aspic, and leave to set. Turn out and serve with a cucumber and beetroot or other salad, with green sandwiches of brown bread and butter and a bowl of mayonnaise sauce.

THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE

Dress Material for the Summer.

What question can be more vital than thin clothes for hot days? Comfort and fashion unite in the irresistible demand for new frocks, frocks of such diaphanous fabrics as shall not oppose the cooling entry of the summer breezes, suits of such sturdy weaves as will brave the adventures of the golf course, the tennis court and country rambles, elegancies of material which shall look effective and yet be in good taste for summer wear.

As a solution of some of these pressing demands let me suggest an inspection of the large assortment of summer goods at Whiteaway, Laidlaw's where some particularly desirable voile organdy is to be found in white. This is the Swiss fabric which is suppose to tub famously and which because of its staying crispness makes up so well for collars, cuffs and sashes.

Procrastination is indeed its own reward for once, for this firm has received a large repeat shipment of the ordinary voile which they are selling at revised prices. Jersey silk, in pink, yellow, orange, grey dark, blue and nigger brown has just been received here, as also a large assortment of French ratines. A fetching novelty is a material showing a heavy woven stripe on sheer crepe, a very handsome design.

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FROM THE FOUR WINDS

SIR A. CONAN DOYLE ON SPIRITISM

Marriages in Heaven: Proofs Offered of Communicating with Next World

New York, Apr. 10.

There are marriages in the spirit world, but no births, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle declared to-day.

Sir Arthur, who has come to America to lecture on psychic matters, made this statement in giving reporters a more intimate view of the next world as he conceived it, than he gave on his arrival yesterday on the White Star str. Baltic.

Marriages, he said, were on a higher level than in this world. They constitute the mating of affinities, he added, and always continue happily. Indeed, he said, there was a very complex form of society in the world hereafter.

Asked about a suicide, Sir Arthur said that one could not force the hand of Providence and that a suicide would have to bear in the spirit world the trouble that had caused him to end his life.

He said that the object of life was to spiritualize ourselves and that riches and successes here did not count against that.

Climatic conditions are one of the stumbling-blocks in the path of mediums, according to Sir Arthur.

"The spirit has to obey material laws when it comes within their sphere," he explained.

THE NEW MATERIALS.

Expressing belief that all could become mediums if the talent were developed, Sir Arthur said that it was through "ectoplasm" that conversation with the spirit world was conducted.

"Ectoplasm," he explained, "is a substance emanating from the medium. At first it is a vapour or gas, which becomes glutinous or putty-like and which in that state can be felt.

"I have felt it myself. It can be photographed. I have a number of photographs.

"It has been analysed by Dr. Schrenck-Notzing in Germany and also by Parisian scientists. It has been found to contain phosphates, carbonates and sulphates and some other substance which has not been determined.

"It is only in ectoplasm that a spirit can materialize. A spirit passing through it, becomes visible to the medium. I saw my mother's face in the ectoplasm of a medium following her death a few months ago. There is not the slightest question about that. It was while I was in Australia. The face seemed as solid as in life."

DEATH NOT PAINFUL.

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle described the sensations of the deathbed as he said they had been communicated to him from beyond the Styx.

Death is not painful but a pleasant process, said Sir Arthur. As death approaches, the soul—the etheric body—floats out from its earthly shell, and hovers above the human clay, tethered only by the silver cord of which Ecclesiastes speaks. The only sensation is one of delicious langour.

The first sight that greets the eye is one of smiling, loving faces bending over the deathbed, continued Sir Arthur.

"Proof?" he asked.

"I have stood by the side of the dying, seen hands turning cold in death stretch out, heard words of endearment fall from lips that soon would move no more. Delirium, say materialists. No, it is not delirium." "The disengaging of the etheric body can be, has been photographed. I am fortunate enough to have such a plate."

Then he told of eight daughters—all clairvoyant—who had sat beside their dying mother.

"It was lovely to see the etheric body disengage itself," he said. "There was a multiplicity of beautiful lights."

He described at length his conversion from a rank materialist to such a faith in spiritualism that he had decided that his wife, his family, his reputation as a man of letters were but as mud in the gutter beside it.

His qualifications, he said, were those of a physician, trained to the scientific point of view, and what was deemed by some who had followed the adventures of Sherlock Holmes, some slight knowledge of detective work.

"I stand but ankle-deep in a vast ocean of psychic knowledge, but even if I am only ankle-deep, I can perhaps bring some message to those who stand dry-shod on the shores."

He then described an experience of his own, when, sitting in a dentist's chair under the influence of gas, he had seen his wife and children riding in a London cab several blocks away. He later learned they actually were riding in a cab at the time.

SOME STRANGE EXPERIENCES.

He then proceeded to recite what he said constituted proof of existence of spirits, piling up instance on instance, some of which he said he had witnessed himself, and all of which he said were thoroughly authenticated.

The first instance he related—because of its, simplicity and freedom from any possibility of trickery—was of a seance held in the nursery of his country home.

He, his wife, his secretary and a medium, he said, sat in darkness for some time without spirits appearing. Then they began singing a hymn—"Onward, Christian Soldiers." Immediately, he said, a glorious baritone voice broke out over their heads. He stopped singing and listened—checking up on the voices of all the persons present—until the voice of the stranger had sung through the whole hymn.

"If it was not an angel's voice, then what was it?" he demanded.

Through the medium of a Welsh coal miner, he had met his own boy, he said, turning to the next instance.

With quavering voice, he told of the boy's calling him eagerly, tensely: "Father, father!" Then, he said, the voice had continued: "Father,—pardon."

The pardon, he said, was asked because the boy had not been able to subscribe to his spiritualistic doctrine. Then, he felt the pressure of a hand on his head, and the brush of ghostly lips.

AN AUSTRALIAN SHARK.

What Sir Arthur said he considered was the most remarkable demonstration of the power of spirits to communicate with human had been authentically established in Melbourne, Australia. There, he said, parents whose two sons had disappeared after they had put out to sea in a sailboat with one sailor had traced their children through a medium.

One son had told the father that they all had been caught in a squall and drowned. Then he asked that his mother be taken out of the room When she had left, he told his father that his brother had been eaten by a strange fish, which did not resemble any shark he ever had seen.

A few days later, Sir Arthur said, a strange species of shark had been captured in the harbour. Inside it was found some broken human bones, and the boy's watch, chain and part of his vest.

Declaring no conflict existed between spiritualism and the Bible, Sir Arthur asserted that "the New Testament, from cover to cover, is pure spiritualism." He quoted several passages of scripture which he declared could be understood only in the light of spiritualism, and suggested that the spiritualistic theory of life after death was the message that Christ sought to impart 2,000 years ago.—Reuter.

LONDON, May 8.—A message from New York states that Jim Larkin, the Irish agitator, who was recently released from prison, was immediately rearrested on the old indictment charging him with criminal anarchy.—Reuter.

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THE NEW BRITISH ESTIMATES

Civil Service Cut of £200 Millions

A reduction of over £200,000,000 is shown in the estimates for civil services and revenue departments for 1922-23, a summary of which has been issued in London on connexion with a vote on account for the next financial year.

The total for next year is £383,551,648, compared with £590,618,113 for the year just ending, while the vote on account, which represents a prevision for between four and five months' expenditure, amounts to £148,300,000.

While a substantial proportion of the reduction is due to less expenditure, there are many items which appeared in this year's account which are not included in the estimates for the coming year. These include a considerable number of items relating to Ireland (amounting to several millions), emergency services estimated to cost £7,585,700 corn production guarantee (England and Wales) £15,000,000, corn production guarantee (Scotland) £4,400,000, loans to Allies £5,000,000, and miscellaneous war services (Foreign Office) £2,412,767.

The chief figures are:—

	1921-22. £	1922-23. £
Ministry of Health	24,245,108	22,512,562
Public Buildings	4,184,360	2,554,950
Board of Control	511,564	529,075
Printing and Stationery	4,187,444	2,679,937
Board of Trade	3,061,179	1,864,543
Board of Agriculture	3,211,605	1,834,804
Secret Service	300,000	200,000
Police	6,741,474	6,292,025
R. I. C.	8,519,409	2,338,924
Board of Education	51,014,665	44,900,000
Research	416,023	297,437
Middle East	28,934,600	10,363,100
League of Nations	77,000	110,893
War Pensions	111,556,606	89,901,000
Old-age Pensions	26,150,000	22,015,000
Ministry of Labour	22,137,000	14,447,000
Road Grants	4,500,000	1,540,000
Unemployment Grants	2,000,000	830,000
Relief of Unemployment	5,000,000	1,009,999
Export Credits	5,000,000	500,000

Criminal injuries (Ireland) compensation is estimated to cost £2,000,000, an increase from £215,000, while two new items are compensation for damage (Northern Ireland) grant £750,000 and Northern Ireland grant in aid £1,000,000. The Disposal and Liquidation Commission has submitted new estimates of £4,300,000, in contrast to the present year's estimates of £7,600,100, while the new figures for the Shipping and Liquidation Commission are £2,885,900, as against £5,445,700. Railway and canal (war) agreements liquidation are estimated to cost £33,485,000, as against £75,20,000. The coal mines deficiency during the coming year is estimated at £5,000,000, the estimates for the past year being £3,000,000. The coal-mining industry subvention estimates have dropped from £10,000,000 to £10,000. Grants for compensation for damage by enemy action during the present year were estimated to cost £100,000, but for the coming year the figures are £4,900,000.

The revenue departments all show substantial decreases. Customs and Excise have fallen from £6,825,900 to £5,120,000, Inland Revenue from £8,024,750 to £7,254,781, and the Post Office from £67, 165,287 to £53,022,000.

£2,000,000 TO BE SAVED ON POLICE EXPENDITURE

Details of Agreement

The "Police Review" contains a full report of a meeting held at the Home Office at the beginning of the month, when, after hearing a statement by the Home Secretary, the following reductions in police allowances—amounting approximately to £1,717,000 a year—were agreed to by the representatives of the police on the understanding that all the items, with the exception of No. 3, be reviewed on March 1, 1923:—Boot allowance to be reduced from 2s. to 1s. per week, saving £133,000; a levy of 2½ per cent. to be made on the standard rate of pay, saving £300,000; reduction of strength and administrative economies, saving £740,000; income tax repayment on rent allowance to be abolished, clothes allowance, saving £15,000; rent allowance to be reduced by 25 per cent. saving about £500,000.

RECORD TRIP ON SMALL OUTLAY

Motorship Travels 30,000 miles on $70 Repair Funds

The performance of the motorship William Penn, the only Diesel-driven ocean-going steamer owned by the Shipping Board, in concluding a globe-girdling voyage of 30,000 miles with a total outlay of $70 for repairs has been hailed by Admiral W. S. Benson, commissioner in charge of construction, as the "most illuminating and conclusive argument that the shipping world has yet had of the advantages to be obtained from the adoption of the explosive engine as a motor power in our merchant ships.

"The vessel steamed around the world and returned to New York in perfect readiness for another voyage, not a cent being necessary for voyage repairs," Admiral Benson said.

"The expenditure of fuel was only 13½ tons of fuel oil per day when steaming at a regular speed of 11 knots.

"The personnel was a little more than two-thirds of what she would have carried had she been under steam. Ordinarily she would not have shipped such a large personnel, but it being her maiden voyage a greater number than was needed was carried in order to avoid possibility of a crew shortage as well as to have a larger number of men of experience in handling a ship of this character."

The William Penn, a 12,375 dead weight ton freighter, left Savannah September 10 last with a miscellaneous cargo of 10,000 tons for Japan, being operated by the Barber Line.—"N. Y. Maritime Register."

OBEDIENCE VOW IN THE MARRIAGE SERVICE

Removal Proposed as Concession to Woman's New Status

New York, April 5.

The Commission on Revision of the Book of Common Prayer, in a report published to-night, proposes to recognize the changed status of woman by striking from the Episcopal marriage ceremony the promise to obey, and eliminating the compulsory giving in marriage.

Gaining equal rights with men in their marriage vows, however, the women would lose a special privilege now accorded them, for the proposal to change the ceremony also provides for striking out the bridegroom's pledge, "with all my worldly goods I thee endow."

The Commission's report, published in the form of a 250-page book and proposing more than 250 alterations and the inclusion of seven entirely new offices, or forms of worship, will be submitted to the Triennial General Convention of the Church at Portland, Ore., next September. Under the constitution of the Church, it cannot be adopted until it has been approved by two general conventions.

Besides the revision of the marriage ceremony, the proposed changes include:—

Re-arrangement of the contents, making for more convenient use; permissive shortening of some of the services; addition of many new prayers, such as "For a State Legislature," "For Memorial Days," "For Our Country and for All Nations;" additional collects, epistles and gospels for special occasions, including Independence Day; enlargement of the catechism and its transformation into a catechetical office of instruction; a form of service for the burial of a child; prayers of permissive use in commemoration of the saints and for the departed; and a special form for missionary service.

The revision, said a statement issued by the Commission, is designed "to adapt the Prayer Book to present conditions, and make it more helpful in meeting the religious needs of the people in the life and worship of to-day."

The commission is under the chairmanship of the Rt. Rev. Cortlandt Whitehead, D.D., Bishop of Pittsburg, the Rev. John W. Suter, D.D., of Boston, is secretary, and Robert H. Gardiner, of Boston, treasurer.—Reuter.

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PASSENGERS

INWARD

Per str Kwangtah, May 12. From Hongkong. Mr. R. T. Hartley.

Per str. Poyang, May 13. From Hankow. Mr. and Mrs. Soars, Mr. H. M. Soars.

Per str. Hsin Peking, May 13. From Ningpo. Messrs. R. Evans, S. Nomon, H. Marshall, Mrs. Cale, Misses E. Marshall and L. Shaine.

Per str. Gleniffer, May 13. From London. Mr., Mrs. C. E. and Miss Lintilhac, Mr. C. W. Raydon, Rev. and Mrs. T. W. Hall, Misses L. Hiron, Johnstone, Messrs. V. Rose, P. E. H. Marsh, L. P. O'Driscoll, F. M. Hall, Hall, Meill and Campbell. **From Hongkong.** Rev. H. King, Rev. Gibson, Misses Peacock, Hume, Messrs. Frost, Iveron, Hirtz and Elfstrom.

Per str. Suiwo, May 14. From Hankow. Mr. Leishman, Mr. and Mrs. Lester.

Per str. Kianghsin, May 14. From Hankow. Mr. Evenson.

Per str. Luenyi, May 14. From Hankow. Mr. and Mrs. E. B. H. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Beand, Mr. and Mrs. Raven, Mr. and Mrs. Houdger, Messrs. F. Garrat, H. H. Hixon, Smith, Monk and Dolan.

Per str. Koonshing, May 15. From Tientsin. Mr. L. W. Nall. **From Weihaiwei.** Miss Curtis.

Per str. Fengtien, May 15. From Tientsin. Mrs. Forsyth, Rev. Wiseman, Messrs. Randall, Hughes, Haseloop and Ossopoff. **From Chefoo.** Mr. Hadjiris. **From Weihaiwei.** Mrs. A. Leach.

Per str. Kiangfoo, May 15. From Hankow. Rev. Piel.

Per str. Szechuen, May 16. From Hongkong and Amoy. Messrs. S. K. Harker and C. Martins.

Per str. Hsin Kiangteen, May 16. From Ningpo. Mr. and Mrs. Jacobs, Misses Merrill, M. A. Wells, A. E. Fitzmender, L. M. Cloy, H. Barebett, Messrs. Crust, F. H. Jewell.

Per str. Loongwo, May 16. From Hankow. Messrs. H. A. Kulzschback, R. T. Williams, Healey, J. W. Boddie, D. A. Broudfoot, C. Ellis, B. J. Simpson, D. Ferguson, Misses E. G. Copeland, M. Wold, A. Nelson and A. Wold. **From Kiukiang.** Master T. Knecht. **From Nanking.** Mr. J. H. Pike.

Per C.M.S. Nanking, May 16. From San Francisco, etc. Mrs. H. Bromfield, Miss L. De Soto, Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Gihoy, Dr. and Mrs. J. M. Hancock, Rev. J. Hermans, Mr. K. A. Heyum, Miss L. Johnston, Mrs. F. A. McGrath, Miss F. McGrath, Mrs. A. T. Parker, Miss F. E. Parker, Rev. B. Randolph Mrs. A. I. Rowles, Rev. U. Verdini and Mr. T. Watters.

Per A.L.S. Pine Tree State, May 16. From Seattle, etc. Miss L. Bailey, Messrs. O. W. Ball, P. F. Bell, R. M. Beville, F. J. Blom, Mrs. Y. Blom, Mr. F. C. Bullard, Mrs. A. Bullard, Mr. C. C. Chopp, A. F. Cook, Dr. E. C. Cort, Mrs. M. Cort, Miss R. Doyle, Messrs. S. Haagensen, J. Helbling, S. Hiraga, L. P. Holman, Mrs. M. Holman, Mr. C. K. Jones, Miss A. B. Jones, Messrs. J. E. Jarred, C. H. Kettenring, Mrs. G. B. Kettenring, Messrs. F. R. Loeffler, J. McEachern, Mrs. N. McEachern, Mr. M. McKenzie, Col. S. W. Minor, Miss M. Muller, Mr. L. K. Nieh, Miss C. O'Loghlin, Mr. and Mrs. S. C. Pappadoto, Miss I. Pappadoto, Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Powrie, Miss V. Rabbitt, Mr. J. Rabbitt, Misses H. Riddell, Roberts, Dr. H. C. F. Rummel, Mrs. E. B. Seabury, Miss H. P. Seabury, Miss A. I. Shade, Messrs C. F. Skinner, R. P. Stewart, P. St. Sure, C. H. Thomas, C. S. Turner, D. C. Worcester, Mrs. A. Worcester, Miss G. Wyckoff and Mr. G. Yaita.

Per str. Hsin Ningshao, May 17. From Ningpo. Mr. A. Nlis.

Per str. Hsin Peking, May 17. From Ningpo. Messrs. Kinnes and Clark.

Per str. Shantung, May 17. From Hongkong. Mrs. M. McKechnie, Messrs. K. M. Fetterly and Fletcher.

Per str. Ngankin, May 17. From Hankow. Mrs. and Miss Perrin, Mrs. Hansen, Messrs. O. Hill, C. M. Perrin, C. Coppinger and J. H. Scott.

Per str. Tuungchow, May 17. From Tientsin. Mr. Constantinidi, Miss McPride, Rev. Holman, Mr. and Mrs. Bena, Mr. Crossby, Mr. and Mr. Reinhardt, Mr. and Mrs. Spencer, Mr. and Mrs. Lippit.

Per str. Hsinlung, May 17. From Tientsin. Mr. Lydall.

Per str. Hunan, May 18. From Swatow. Mr. R. C. Focken.

Per str. Shengking, May 18. From Hankow. Lt. O'Rouke, Lt. Reyner, Mr. W. Lalor, Dr. and Mrs. Reed, Mr. J. Bailie, 5 Naval Ratings.

Per str. Hsin Kiangteen, May 18. From Ningpo. Mr. E. G. Sugg, Bishop and Mrs. H. J. Molony, Messrs. Gravatto, W. H. and J. S. Grant.

Per str. Kungwo, May 18. From Hankow. Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Brewster, Mr. and Mrs. M. Young, Miss Flynn, Mrs. H. H. Fowler, Mrs. A. Goffe, Mrs. Starling, Mr. Tsian, Mrs. N. D. Rogers, Miss L. Shepperd, Mr. J. J. Brenneman. **From Nanking.** Messrs. W. R. Elliston, G. M. Grandison and Mrs., Handlan. **From Wuhu.** Mr. S. Barwick.

Per T.K.K.S. Korea Maru, May 18. From Hongkong. Mr. and Mrs. P. Bouquet, Messrs. W. R. Coe, J. Cassa, A. W. Davidson, Dr. and Mrs. R. D. Fry, Lt.-Col. R. R. Gibson, Mr. E. Garcia, Master Garcia, Messrs. R. J. Harrison, W. J. Knight, T. R. Parsons, A. Ribet, Miss E. M. Rivuetla, Mrs. M. H. Scarborough, Miss D. S. Schepens, Mr. S. M. Stow, Mrs. C. Thiessen and Mr. H. Walker.

OUTWARD.

Per str. Chekiang, May 10.—For Antung—Mr. A. Stieler.

Per str. Tatung, May 11.—For Kiukiang—Mr. A. M. T. Woodward. **For Hankow**—Rev. M. Meedor, Rev. A. Delland, Mr. A. Hertzberg.

Per str. Soochow, May 12.—For Amoy—Miss Symington. Miss Morling, Mr. Anderson, Rev. Monorieff, Mr. R. A. Rogers, Rev. Boot. **For Hongkong**—Mr. J. F. Stemer.

Per str. Hsin Peking, May 12.—For Ningpo.—Messrs. F. H. Jewell, R. K. Evans, Mrs. S. H. Noxon, Miss E. Dickie, Rev. W. J. Wallace, Mr. and Mrs. Jocobs.

Per str. Ningshin, May 12.—For Foochow.—Misses J. C. Clarke, K. Loader, M. Watney, A. K. Wolfe, M. W. Clarke, M. Glassburner, Bishop J. Hind, Mr. E. C. Jones, Dr. H. R. Matthews, Mr. E. H. Munson, Misses Stafford, E. J. Betow and Nicolaisen, Rev. J. W. Hawley, Misses C. M. Bartlett, J. Bonafield, M. Wiley, Rev. W. L. Beard, Rev. H. I. Caldwell, Rev. H. V. Lacy, Mr. W. I. Lacy, Rev. F. M. Foothaker, Misses P. J. Plumb, G. McClury, Trumble, Bishop and Mrs. Keeney.

Per str. Soochow, May 12.—For Amoy.—Misses Symington, Morling, Rev. Moncrieff, Mr. R. A. Rogers, Rev. Poot, Mr. Anderson. **For Hongkong.**—Mr. J. F. Stemer.

Per str. Sinkiang, May 13.—For Tsingtao.—Mr. and Mrs. W. O. B. Miller, Miss A. Huey, Mrs. E. L. Morgan.

Per str. Sunning, May 13.—For Hongkong.—Rev. F. W. Scholes, Messrs. J. N. Kays, Wright, Capen. **For Swatow.**—Miss Cowles, Messrs. S. M. Cowles, R. Renfoul. Miss Brander and Dr. Stewart.

Per str. Shuntien, May 13.—For Tientsin.—Messrs. V. F. Boell, Bert, J. F. Schwartz, J. A. Clark, F. A. Betts, F. F. Hayman, Col. Davy, Hon and Mrs. Claud Severn, Mrs. Bullock, Rev. C. T. Candilin, Mr. and Mrs. Dalin. For **Chefoo.**—Messrs. R. Abbott, E. Wellbelove, Nipps, Guenclareff, C. Nakama, Miss M. Frame. **For Weihaiwei.**—Lady and Miss Fraser.

Per str. Hakone Maru, May 13.—For London and ports.—Mr. and Mrs. F. Boyd, Mrs. Evensen, Mrs. Halvarsen, Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Downie, Mr. and Mrs. Harth Olsen, Mr. and Mrs. Divers, Mr. and Mrs. Preau, Master Edkins, Messrs. G. Edkins, Anderson, D. J. Hooper, Lynte, Gwyne, J. Merian, W. Krieger, E. Burnif, J. Smith, Robertson, Ellefsen, A. Loveland, [illegible] Siefert, Donald, H. H. Remedios, Water, Lerrigo, M. Verlinchen, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Fisher.

Per str. Sinkiang, May 13.—For Tsingtao.—Mr. and Mrs. W. D. B. Miller, Miss A. Huey and Mr. E. L. Morgan.

Per str. Woosung, May 13.—For Kiukiang.—Mr. Gibson, Misses Jenkins, Gibson, Mr. F. R. Brown, Rev. G. C. Lacy. **For Hankow.**—Mr. H. S. Rattenbury, Mrs. A. S. Baskett, Dr. Ford, Mr. Harmon, Miss Coombs and Mr. G. Hardie.

Per str. Kiangteen, May 14.—For Hankow.—Mr. Lanrosch.

Per str. Kwangtah, May 14.—For Hongkong.—Messrs. E. Rodrigues, A. D. Merand, Mrs. P. R. Murray. **For Canton.**—Mr. and Mrs. Miller, Messrs. Maxwell and Lien.

Per str. Liangchow, May 14.—For Canton.—Mrs. Sweeting. **For Hongkong.**—Major H. L. Wright, Messrs. P. H. Todd, F. W. Gibbins, Theyer and Fillingham.

Per str. Suiwo, May 15.—For Hankow.—Mr. and Mrs. P. C. Windham, Mrs. A. Ortolarni.

Per str. Hsin Peking, May 15.—For Ningpo.—Rev. Rowland, Messrs. J. E. Shoemaker and E. M. Poteat.

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Per str. Poyang, May 15.—For Tungchow.—Mrs. A. T. Milla. **For Kiukiang.**—Miss Henderson. **For Hankow.**—Misses B. Eggen, M. Dalland, Stewart and St. T. R. Beatty.

Per str. Koonshing, May 16.—For Chefoo.—Messrs. V. Johannsen, Coulthard. **For Tientsin.**—Mrs. G. L. Davis, Mrs. Ewart, Mr. and Mrs. Pearson, Mr. and Mrs. Laye, Mr. Healey.

Per str. Luenyi, May 16.—For Nanking.—Mrs. J. M. Avana. **For Wuhu.**—Mr. W. J. Mortimore. **For Kiukiang.**—Mrs. M. de Souza. **For Hankow.**—Rev. J. F. Bucher, Messrs. E. Mameseh, Nail, F. C. Button and H. Hanson.

Per str. Tingsang, May 17.—For Swatow.—Mr. A. M. Scott Morris.

Per str. Luchow, May 17.—For Hongkong.—Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Olsen. **For Swatow.**—Mrs. Chamberlain, Miss Sollman, Mr. G. E. Whitman and Dr. Chamberlain.

Per str. Loongwo, May 17.—For Nanking.—Bishop Roots. **For Chinkiang.**—Mr. and Mrs. Horner. **For Hankow.**—Mrs. Marthoud, Rev. and Mrs. Adams, Dr. J. L. Stewart, Messrs. Mortimer, Openshaw, Mrs. E. Chamberlin, Rev. and Mrs. Wallace, Rev. and Mrs. Matson, Rev. Gould, Mr. and Mrs. Night, Mrs. E. W. Hanson, Mr. Laurence, Mrs. Ayscough, Miss Carrere, Mrs. Calhois, Mr. Simpson, Mr. and Mrs. Levi.

Per str. Ichang, May 18.—For Newchwang.—Mrs. Keers.

Per str. Szechuen, May 18.—For Hongkong.—Mrs. Savill and Mr. W. C C. Becks. **For Amoy.**—Messrs. T. C Brown and F. Eckerson.

Per str. Kungwo, May 19.—For Hankow.—Rev. T. Bryson, Mrs. Haye, Misses Harada and Stevens, Dr. Keller.

BIRTHS

FERRIS.—On May 12, 1922, at Mrs. Watanabe's Hospital, 13 Kungping Road, Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Ferris, a son.

FRASER.—On Monday, May 15, 1922, at the Victoria Nursing Home, Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. John Duncan Fraser, a daughter.

FUXMAN.—On Sunday, May 14, 1922, at the Victoria Nursing Home, Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Fuxman, a son. Australian papers please copy.

HAWKINGS.—On May 17, 1922, at 30 Gordon Road, Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Hawkings, a daughter.

KINGSLEY.—On Saturday, May 13, 1922, at Sage Memorial Hospital, Nanking, China, to Mr. and Mrs. Oliver S. Kingsley, a son.

LIDDELL.—On May 14, 1922, at No. 158 Edinburgh Road, Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. N. O. Liddell, a son.

NERGAARD.—On May 12, 1922, at No. 10 M. B. Terrace, Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. J. P. B. Nergaard, a son.

SINNECKER.—On May 19, 1922, at Margaret Williamson Hospital, Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. George Sinnecker, a son.

TONKIN.—On May 11, 1922, at Dr. Fearn's Sanitorium, Shanghai, to Capt. and Mrs. W. Tonkin, a daughter. (Still born).

UNDERWOOD.—On Wednesday, May 17, 1922, at Dr. Fearn's Sanatorium, Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Underwood, twin boys.

MARRIAGES

FISHER—McDONALD.—On May 10, 1922, at H.B.M. Consulate-General, Hankow, before H. Goffe, Esq., C.M.G., H.B.M. Consul-General, and afterwards at the Roman Catholic Cathedral, Thomas James Fisher, son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Fisher, of Antigua, B.W.I., to Margaret Mary, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John McDonald, formerly of Keppoch, Inverness-shire and now of Cape Town.

MILLER—SHEARER.—On Friday, May 12, 1922, before Mr. C. F. Garstin, Acting British Consul-General, Shanghai, and afterwards at Union Church, by the Rev. A. N. Rowland, Wm. Dick Brown, son of the late Andrew Miller and Mrs. I. B. Miller of 118 Avenue Road, Shanghai, to Elizabeth (Betty) Patrick Shearer, daughter of the late Archibald Shearer of Shanghai and Mrs. A. Shearer of Renfrew, Scotland.

DEATHS

FARMER.—On May 7, 1922, at Newchwang, George Francis Farmer, in his 40th year. (Hongkong papers please copy).

EDWARDS.—On May 14, 1922, at the Isolation Hospital, Shanghai, Burgess Allison Edwards, aged 30 years.

MALCOLM.—On Monday, May 15, 1922, at 29 Macgregor Road, Shanghai, Alexander Scouller (Alick), beloved son of Allan and Bella Malcolm, aged 20 months.

PARK.—On May 15, 1922, Peter Berwick, the dearly beloved child of Mr. and Mrs. E. Park, 9 Wayside Road, Shanghai, aged 6 months.

UNDERWOOD.—At Dr. Fearn's Sanatorium, Shanghai, the dearly loved twin sons (Peter Wilson and Derek), of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Underwood.

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SICCAWEI METEOROLOGICAL REPORT

Day of Month	Barometer. 9 A.M.	Barometer. Attached Therm.	Wind. Direction 9 a.m.	Wind. Force (1-12)	Hygrometer 9 a.m. Dry	Hygrometer 9 a.m. Wet	Thermometer in Shade Max.	Thermometer in Shade Min.	Weather conditions
May 12	30.13	66.2	E S E	2	66.4	55.2	75.6	55.6	O.
" 13	29.97	65.7	S S W	1	73.1	61.9	87.4	53.6	B.
" 14	29.98	67.7	S S E	1	78.4	68.9	87.3	57.0	B. C.
" 15	29.87	69.5	S S E	3	73.1	68.2	76.8	63.7	O.
" 16	30.03	68.6	E	2	68.9	63.3	77.6	59.9	O.
" 17	30.09	68.7	E S E	2	73.2	66.8	78.4	58.9	O.
" 18	30.04	69.3	S E	1	70.7	67.8	85.3	64.2	O.

Explanation

B—blue sky D—drizzle H—hail M—misty (hazy) R—rain T—thunder
C—clouds F—fog L—lightning O—overcast (dull) S—snow Z—calm

SHANGHAI THERMOMETER READINGS FOR THE WEEK

In the open air in a shaded situation in the Foreign Settlement

Date	Thermometer (Fahr.) Minimum 1922	Minimum 1921	Maximum 1922	Maximum 1921	Rainfall Inches 1922	Inches 1921
May 12	59.2	51	77.8	66.5	Nil.	Nil.
" 13	56	56	85	69	Nil.	Nil.
" 14	61	56.5	84.6	73	Nil.	Nil.
" 15	60	54.2	75.6	70.2	0.31	Nil.
" 16	61	59	74	66.8	Nil.	0.68
" 17	61.2	64	74.2	77.1	Nil.	0.05
" 18	65	60.5	80.8	81	Nil.	Nil.

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